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A POPULAR WEEKLY STAMP JOURNAL

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FOR ALL CLASSES OF POSTAGE STAMP COLLECTORS

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MAJOR E. B. EVANS

AND

CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

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"THE POSTMARKS OF THE BRITISH ISLES FROM 1840"

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NOTE.—*This work should be bound separately at the end of the volume.*

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VOL. IX.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

Greece—continued

WHEN it was decided in 1895 to have a revival of the Olympic Games in April, 1896, the project evoked great enthusiasm, one rich Greek, M. Averof, contributing £20,000 towards the expenses. With a view to raising another £20,000 the Committee received permission to issue a set of twelve commemorative stamps, to be used concurrently with the ordinary postage stamps from April 6, 1896, until October, 1896. These stamps came promptly under the ban of the S.S.S.S. (Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps), then in existence, and not without reason, for one of the Committee in a position to know estimated that the profit from the sale to collectors would amount to the sum above mentioned. The sales, however, did not come up to expectations, and the period of currency was at first extended to October, 1897, and later till March, 1897, whilst finally, April 19, 1897, a decree was made prolonging the issue until the stocks were exhausted. The political troubles of 1897 and the disastrous Graeco-Turkish war consequent on the Cretan troubles, by which Greece was so severely damaged in prestige and pocket, no doubt were the causes of the later prolongations. The Committee that decided upon the designs for the commemorative stamps had also been occupied in settling particulars for new stamps to replace the small "Hermes" type, but the cash needed to carry out the proposals was not available for some years. Hence the Olympic stocks came in handy, and as for some time these stamps were the only ones on sale at the post offices, what at first was merely a speculative and unnecessary issue became the ordinary series for the country.

As is not uncommon in issues of this kind, the stamps were subject to much private speculation, chiefly on the part of postal officials. The fact that only small supplies of the 40l. and 60l. had been ordered led at first to inflated prices for these values, but the Government, rising to the occasion, ordered fresh supplies, and prices promptly

dropped. The quantities ordered of the six lower values varied from two to four millions each ; of the 40l. to 5 dr. (including fresh supplies of 40l. and 60l.) from 100,000 to 250,000 each ; and of the 10 dr. 50,000.

The dies, engraved on wood, were the work of the well-known Parisian engraver M. Eugene Mouchon, and the stamps were typographed at the French Government Printing Office, being perforated by the usual French machines. On the whole the stamps can only be considered as very commonplace productions. The designs were adapted by M. Ziellieros from well-known antique works of art, most of which had figured on old Greek coins. The descriptions below the following illustrations should be sufficient ; the Greek words at top and bottom (in addition to words of value) stand for "Olympic Games" and "Athens" respectively, whilst the word "ΕΛΛΑΣ" (Greece) on each stamp seems to have been added as an afterthought.



(Gladiators, after the statue at Naples), for 1l. and 2l.



(Discus-thrower, from the bronze of Myron), for 5l. and 10l.



(Amphora depicting Minerva, or Pallas Athene in full armour, with two cocks, the symbols of fêtes and games), for 20l. and 40l.



(Quadriga or four-horse chariot of Hieron),
for 25 l. and 60 l.



(Acropolis and Stadium at Athens.)



(Hermes or Mercury holding an infant Bacchus, after the famous statue by Praxiteles.)



(Victory, after the statue
by Peonias.)



(The Acropolis and Parthenon at Athens.)

April 6, 1896. *Olympic Games issue.*

Perf. $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$ or $13\frac{1}{2} \times 14$.

				Unused.	Used.
				s. d.	s. d.
1 l., ochre	.	.	.	0 1	1
2 l., rose	.	.	.	0 2	1
5 l., mauve	.	.	.	0 3	1
10 l., slate	.	.	.	0 6	1
20 l., brown	.	.	.	0 6	1
25 l., red	.	.	.	1 3	2
40 l., pale violet	.	.	.	1 6	6
60 l., black	.	.	.	2 0	6
1 dr., blue	.	.	.	2 0	0
2 dr., bistre	.	.	.	4 0	4
5 dr., green	.	.	.	8 6	8
10 dr., brown	.	.	.	14 0	14

Some of the above stamps and of the previous issues may be found handstamped in black, blue, or violet, with a circular mark having a crown in the centre and an inscription reading "Treasury" and the name of a province in Greek. This is only a control

mark, adopted in an attempt to counteract loss on the probable use of stamps stolen or looted during the war, but collectors at first might be puzzled as to its meaning.

The Olympic stamps continued in concurrent use with those of the second type until the end of 1900, but about this time, stocks of both sorts were running low. Instead of printing fresh stamps of the 1886 type, of which the plates were still in Athens, the opportunity was taken to "raise the wind" with a flood of provisionals. These were frankly speculative, and all sorts of old stamps were raked out and surcharged, and, as stated previously, imperf. stamps were perforated for private individuals. For a time chaos reigned, and a goodly crop of varieties may be had by the specialist (possibly made for him). General collectors can satisfy requirements by one of each kind, ignoring differences of shade and perforation. The provisionals may be divided into two groups—(a) with surcharge of value only, (b) overprinted "A.M." in addition. These letters stand for *Axia metalliki* (value in gold), and stamps so overprinted could only be purchased with gold currency, the other stamps being sold at their equivalent in silver or paper, which was at a considerable discount. The main reason for such stamps (if used at all) was said to be for the International Parcel Post service. For this Greece had to pay its share of the carrying value at nominal par rate, consequently the use of ordinary stamps meant a considerable loss to the Government. Whether convincing or otherwise, the reason was good enough to have a double dose of unnecessary provisionals.



1900. *Provisionals.* Various stamps surcharged in black or red.

I. With value only

*Large Hermes, Athens print.
Figures at back.*

Imper

	<i>Imperf.</i>	<i>Perf.</i>	
<i>Unused.</i>	<i>Used.</i>	<i>Unused.</i>	<i>Used.</i>
s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
50 l. on 40 l., flesh on <i>cream</i>	1 0 0 4	1 0 0 4	
5 dr. on 40 l., purple on blue	8 0 8 0 10 0	—	

No figures at back.

30 l. on 40 l., dull purple on cream	o	6	o	6	o	8	—
40 l. on 2 l., stone on cream	o	8	1	0	1	6	—
3 dr. on 10 l., orange	6	0	6	0	5	0	5
on cream	6	0	6	0	5	0	5



*Small Hermes.
Belgian print.*

	<i>Imperf.</i>	<i>Perf.</i>	
	Unused.	Used.	Unused.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
2 dr. on 40 l., purple	40 0	—	50 0
20 l. on 25 l., blue	0 6	0 3	0 6
1 dr. on 40 l., purple	2 0	2 0	2 0
2 dr. on 40 l.	40 0	—	30 0



Athens print.

	<i>Imperf.</i>	<i>Perf.</i>	
	Unused.	Used.	Unused.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
2 dr. on 40 l., purple	40 0	—	50 0
20 l. on 25 l., blue	0 6	0 3	0 6
1 dr. on 40 l., purple	2 0	2 0	2 0
2 dr. on 40 l.	40 0	—	30 0

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Stock Books, and are, therefore, the Prices at which Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., will have pleasure in supplying any of the stamps that may be needed by any of our readers.

Topical Notes

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

A Disclaimer

SO many friends have written to me in reference to another gentleman of the same name and initials as myself, that I think it best to say that I am not Mr. C. J. Phillips of Flanders Road, Bedford Park (or Chiswick), nor any relative of this gentleman. I, however, had the pleasure of meeting him last week, and I can now vouch for the fact that Mr. Cyril J. Phillips does exist in the flesh.

Serious Illness of Mr. E. B. Power

I AM sure that many of my readers will learn with regret that our genial manager in New York, Mr. Eustace B. Power, has been very ill with a serious attack of pneumonia. I think from a cable I have just received that the crisis is past, and I hope that Mr. Power will soon be able to get away from New York for a few weeks to recuperate.

During Mr. Power's absence from business our friend Mr. John N. Luff will double his work, and do all he possibly can to attend to the business usually in Mr. Power's hands.

I am sure that under these circumstances my readers in America will kindly excuse any slight delay that may occur in attending to their orders.

II. Overprinted "A.M." in addition.

Large Hermes.

With figures.

	<i>Imperf.</i>	<i>Perf.</i>
	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 dr. on 40 l., lake on cream	—	3 0 — 5 0 —

Without figures.

2 dr. on 5 l., green on cream	5 0	6 0	7 6	—
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Small Hermes. Belgian print.

25 l. on 40 l., purple	0 9	—	1 0	—
50 l. on 25 l., blue	2 0	—	3 6	—

Olympic Games issue in red.

	<i>Unused.</i>	<i>Used.</i>
	s. d.	s. d.
5 l. on 1 dr., blue	0 9	—
25 l. on 40 l., purple	1 0	1 0
50 l. on 2 dr., bistre	1 3	2 0
1 dr. on 5 dr., green	2 0	2 0
2 dr. on 10 dr., brown	3 6	3 6

(To be continued.)

Coins and Medals

ON November 19 and 20 Messrs. Glendinning and Co., Ltd., held a sale of old coins and medals at their galleries, 7 Argyll Street, Oxford Circus, London, W. The following were amongst the most interesting pieces sold :—

Victoria, gold. Proof set of £5, £2, £1, and 10s., 1887 All brilliant .	£ s. d.
Victoria, gold. Set of £5, £2, £1, and 10s., 1893. Very fine .	9 0 0
Gold. Edward III, noble, 1369-77, with "FRANC. DNS. HIB. Z. AQVIT."	8 17 6
Very fine	2 2 0
Cromwell crown, 1658. Fine and rare	2 2 0
Philip, 1732, doubloon	3 7 6
Military guinea, 1813; the half, 1813; quarter-guinea, 1762; and a sovereign, 1817. All very fine	3 2 6

War Medals, etc.

Waterloo, 1815 (Ensign Charles Smith, 33rd Regiment Foot). Fine and rare as an officer's medal .	4 15 0
Seven bars—Talavera, Fuentes d'Onor, Ciudad Rodrigo, Salamanca, Vittoria, Pyrenees, Orthes (C. Collinson, corporal, 21st Foot). Fine and rare	4 0 0

	L s. d.
Six bars — Fuentes d'Onor, Salamanca, Vittoria, Pyrenees, St. Sebastian. Nivelle (R. Thomas, 51st Foot), very fine and scarce; also Waterloo medal for same recipient, fine state, but edge re-engraved	5 15 0
One bar—Java (J. York, 14th Foot). Fine and scarce	4 2 6
The Victoria Cross, awarded to Samuel Mitchell, captain of the foretop, H.M.S. <i>Harrier</i> , for conspicuous gallantry in New Zealand on April 29, 1864, for bringing out of the Pah, Commander Hay, who was mortally wounded, although ordered by that officer to leave him and seek his own safety	50 0 0
With this decoration is a silver flask, inscribed: "From an ever grateful mother to Samuel Mitchell, v.c., who, when Coxswain to her son Commander Edward Hay, H.M.S. <i>Harrier</i> , at the Storming of the Gate Pah, Tauranga, New Zealand, carried that Officer when mortally wounded out of the Pah to a place of safety, under a heavy fire, for which he received the VICTORIA CROSS."	
Cabul, 1842, and Maharajpoor Star, both to Captain Robert Norman, 31st Regiment. In very fine state, rare	4 17 6
Captain R. Norman, born at Manningtree, Essex, June 11, 1801, served with the 31st Foot at Mazeena, Tezeen, Jugdulluck, and occupation of Cabul, with engagements leading to it, served with the 40th at Maharajpoor.	
Battle of Maida, July 4, 1806, silver medal, bust of King Georgius Tertius Rex, rev. figures of Victory and Fame, Trinacria, "MAI JUL. DA IV. MDCCCVI.", edge inscribed "LIEUT. PEARCE LOWEN, A FOOT REGT."	II 0 0
Lieutenant Pearce Lowen's name appears in the Army List, 1804-6, attached to the regiment possibly de Watteville's Regiment. This medal appears to be the only specimen known in silver bearing recipient's name, in original silver frame, with suspender. Fine and rare.	
Reward of Valour, first class, gold enamelled star. Very fine and extremely rare	7 15 0
Decoration of the Crystal Button, the rare variety bestowed at the time of the Chinese War, 1857-60. A few English soldiers received it	5 5 0
The total sale realized nearly	600 0 0

The Hon. Treasurer of the R.P.S.

THE *London Philatelist* announces that Mr. C. N. Biggs has retired from this post after filling it for twenty years, with the greatest credit to himself and to the Society. His successor is Mr. C. E. McNaughtan, who has been a member for many years and has been for some time on the Council. Mr. McNaughtan holds a very responsible position in the Stock Exchange, and is well known as an advanced collector specializing in Australians.

I am sure that the Royal Philatelic Society has found a worthy successor to Mr. Biggs, and that the appointment will be thoroughly endorsed by all who have the honour of Mr. McNaughtan's acquaintance.

Amsterdam Exhibition

I HAVE received some copies of the rules and regulations of this Exhibition, to be held in June, 1909, and extracts from these are given in another part of this issue.

Great Britain "Experimental Issues"

Embossed Adhesive Is. and 10d.

I WAS about to write some short notes upon some stamps that have recently appeared in the London market when I saw that the Earl of Crawford has fully covered the ground in a paper he read before the Royal Philatelic Society on November 5, 1908, and which is published in the last number of *The London Philatelist*.

I illustrate two of the obliterated specimens in the collection of a friend.



Brown.



Green.

The first of the brown 1s. stamps that turned up in the trade was offered to us as a great rarity, with a story of its having been found *on a letter* in a Government department by some clerks who were destroying papers. We were told that the stamp was removed, but that the letters had to be destroyed. From the fact that a few weeks later on other copies of the 1s. in brown and in *pale* green also turned up in the possession of various dealers in the City, I am inclined to think the tale told us was altogether fabricated.

I refer my readers to the article by Lord Crawford for full details concerning these very interesting pieces.

Description of New Stock Books arranged and priced during the last week

British New Guinea, Papua, and Solomon Isles.

ONLY three months ago we bought a collection of Papua and made up this group, but the book has been skinned and barely ten pounds' worth of stamps left in it.

Luckily we have been able to purchase a very fine collection of these islands, strong in sheets, blocks, and errors, and we have been able to make up a very fine book, but in many cases have had to advance the selling prices on account of the high rates we have had to pay. The prices in this new stock book will probably be those we shall adopt in our 1909 Catalogue, now in the press.

New Zealand.

Two fine books of this ever-popular country have just been arranged. The early issues are rather good, and include a large number of copies of each stamp and some interesting rarities, such as the 1s., green on *blue* paper, unused, halves of the 1s. on blue, and 1s., bleuté, used for 6d. on whole letters, a number of retouches, the 1d., brown, wmk. N Z, and a superb lot of shades and varieties in the 1872 to 1908 issues. These are essentially books that should be examined quickly before the finer copies are picked out.

Ecuador.

Two fine and very complete books of this country have been rearranged and priced after our Catalogue for 1909.

Our New York house has made some important purchases in this country, and also a very careful study of the stamps; the result is that for the first time we have mastered the question of the reprints of 1894, 1895, 1896 postage stamps and 1896 Postage Dues, and we have weeded all these out of our stock and returned them to the vendors. The prices we quote in the new Catalogue are for stamps guaranteed genuine originals, and they are very correctly based on market supply, as the largest stocks in the world have been examined, and we are now enabled, for the first time, to form a correct estimate of the rarity of the various issues.

The Postage Stamps of Belgium

By CH. DE BONT

ON December 24, 1847, the Belgian Senate passed the Postal Reform Laws, by virtue of which provision was made for postage stamps to be used to frank letters.

The law enacted on December 24, 1847, did not really come into force until July 1, 1849, which was the date of issue of the first stamps. Notwithstanding that the latter was the official date of issue, all the post offices in the kingdom sold them from June 25 onwards, but they were not allowed to prepay postage until July 1.

A Royal Decree dated June 17, 1849, of which the following is an extract, announces the issue of the 10 and 20 centimes stamps:—

“MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS.

“At the request of our Minister of Public Works, we have decreed and do decree:—

“1. That stamps of 10 and 20 centimes be issued to prepay the postage on letters.

“2. That the said stamps bear Our portrait;

that there be inscribed upon them the word ‘Postes,’ together with an indication of their value, which will be repeated in figures.

“3. That they be sold by the officials of the Administration of Posts.

“Our Minister of Public Works is directed to carry out the orders given by this Decree,

“Given at Brussels, 17 June, 1849,

“LEOPOLD.

“By the King,
“Minister of Public Works,

“H. Rolin.”

* *

The 10 centimes stamp was intended to frank ordinary letters for distances not exceeding thirty kilometres (about 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ miles). The 20 centime stamp was used when the distance between the receiving and distributing offices exceeded thirty kilometres. An “ordinary” letter was one that did not weigh more than 10 grammes (about $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.); heavier letters were charged as follows:—

10 to 20 grammes	20 centimes
20 , 60 ,	40 "
60 , 100 ,	60 "
And for every 40 grammes } 20 , more. in excess, or fraction thereof }	

Registered letters were accepted at the uniform rate of 20 centimes (postage included).

A clause in the law of April 22, 1849, provided that any person enclosing letters in railway parcels, or in parcels of newspapers or other printed matter, intended for transmission through the post, should be prosecuted and punished according to the enactments of the Decree of 27 Prairial, Year IX.*

Another clause of the same law authorized the Government to reduce the charge for ordinary letters over greater distances than thirty kilometres to 10 centimes as soon as the net revenue derived from the post offices should exceed two million francs (£80,000) per annum.

On June 18, 1849, the Minister of Public Works, M. H. Rolin, caused the following special instructions to be issued concerning the way in which stamps were to be used :—

"Brussels, 18 June, 1849.

"A Ministerial Notice on :—

"The Use of Postage Stamps. Prepayment of letters by means of stamps.

"In order that the public may not be subjected to the annoyance caused by the present means of prepaying letters, the Administration will cause to be sold at the rate of 10 and 20 centimes stamps with which letters may be franked within the interior of the kingdom, without its being necessary to pay the amount of the postage in actual coin at the post offices.

"These stamps consist of a small engraving of the King's portrait, together with an indication of value in words and figures: they will be printed on paper of which the back is provided with a light coating of gum.

"The value of each stamp may also be known by its colour and the colour of the printing upon it; *brown* is used for the 10 centimes stamp, and *blue* for the 20 centimes.

"To frank a letter all that will be necessary is to moisten the gum on the back of a stamp, and then affix it to that part bearing the address. It may then be put into a letter-box without further formalities."



* "Prairial" was the name given to the ninth month of the (new) year when the French calendar was altered at the time of the French Revolution. "Prairial" was reckoned, according to our calendar, from 20/21 May to 19/20 June. According to my reckoning "27 Prairial, Year IX," would be about June 15, 1801.—TRANS.

Issue of July 1, 1849.

The first issue consisted of two stamps. They were produced by the line-engraved (*tulle-douce*) process, and were the work of M. J. Wiener; they were printed in colour on varying papers in the Stamp Works at Brussels. Each sheet was composed of 200 stamps. On the back of each stamp the watermark illustrated above (two letters "L" intertwined and contained in a frame) can be distinguished. These initials do not always register exactly with the stamp, and consequently the watermark can be found in most irregular positions; sometimes a portion of the watermark appears at each end or on each side of a stamp; or it may be inverted, or read from right to left. The normal position is such that the letters read from left to right, and also slant in that direction.

The stamps of the first issue continued to be available for use until July 1, 1866, when the whole of the remaining stock was destroyed.

The Stamp Office produced these stamps in three distinct printings; the first printing dates from May, 1849, and comprises 2,600,000 copies, all on thick paper; of this quantity 1,450,000 were the 10 centimes, *deep brown*, and the balance, 1,150,000, the 20 centimes, *deep blue*.

The second printing was made on wove paper towards the end of the same year. It comprised a greater number of stamps; actually 3,000,000 of the 10 centimes, *grey-brown*, and 3,600,000 of the 20 centimes in two shades, *pale blue* and *milky blue*.

Lastly, the third printing took place, during April, 1850, on a fairly thin paper; it did not comprise a great quantity of stamps, there being only 800,000 of the 10 centimes, *brown*, and 500,000 of the 20 centimes in both *deep* and *pale blue*.

Stamps of this last printing sometimes occur showing the whole of the impression quite clearly on the back.

Varieties.

The stamps of this issue may be found unwatermarked, but such specimens are extremely rare, and come from the edges of sheets. Specimens may also be found which show double figures in the upper corners, together with a border line, which is not found in ordinary copies; these are met with in both values.

The 20 centimes, *pale blue*, is known with a large thick "o" in "20."

There exist copies of the 10 and 20 centimes having a line drawn across them in either *red* or *black* ink. This species of cancellation was replaced later by a stamp reading "Spécimen."

Varieties are also known in both values, that show not only the ordinary watermark in frame, but also a second watermark con-

sisting of one of the letters of the inscription "Ministère des travaux Publics—Bruxelles Belgique—Postes" (Ministry of Public Works—Brussels—Belgium—Posts).

Reprints.

The 10 and 20 centimes were reprinted in November, 1866, on thick, laid paper, without watermark.

10 c., deep bistre.
20 c., blue.

In 1893 a second reprint was made on very thick wove paper.

10 c., red-brown.
20 c., very deep blue.

Finally, the third reprint was made in 1898, on thin, highly surfaced, wove paper.

10 c., violet-brown.
20 c., blue.

Some copies of the third reprint were cancelled officially by order of one of the Government Departments, the cancellation reading

"Bruxelles—Départ.—23 mai 1901."

* * *

REFERENCE LIST OF FIRST ISSUE.

(a) Printed on medium or thick white paper.
10 centimes, deep brown, brown, greyish black.
20 , , deep, pale, or milky blue.

(b) Printed on thin white paper.
10 centimes, deep brown, greyish black, russet-brown.
20 centimes, blue, deep or pale blue.

Essays.

There are a number of essays of the stamps of the first issue; they were the work of the engravers Wiener and Delpierre, both of whom were among the great artists of the period.

It is generally acknowledged that the first Belgian stamps were really gems of the engraver's art.

The following essays of the adopted design are known:—

10 c., red-brown on yellowish-white card.
10 c., black on yellow paper.
20 c., black on white polished card.
20 c., yellow on coloured paper.
10 c., grey-black and red-brown on white card.

Issue of October 17 and August 10, 1850.

After having been in use for a year, the stamps of the first issue were replaced by some of a different design, but the old ones were allowed to retain their franking power until July 1, 1866.



The following extract is taken from paragraph 4 of a Royal Decree dated September 25, 1865:—

"Postage stamps of the earlier issue may be used until 1 July, 1866; any remaining in circulation after that date will be exchanged at any post office for those of the new design, but only until three months after the said date: at the expiration of this time they will be demonetized."

In September, 1849, a 40 centime stamp of the new design was prepared, it being printed on some of the paper provided for the first issue. It was first issued on October 17, 1849, the official designation of the colour being "carmine." The design shows a head of Leopold I turned to the right, enclosed in an oval, having a *quadrillé* background; at the top the word "POSTES" appears, and below, the value expressed in words; the upper corners bear numerals of value, as in the first issue. It was produced by line engraving, the work of J. Wiener, and was printed in colour on white paper of varying quality; the watermark naturally consisted of the letters "L L" in a rectangle.

The issue of this new value was quite justified by the postal arrangements concluded with France on April 27, 1849, and later on with Great Britain.

A circular dated October 9, 1849, gave information as to the issue of 40 centime stamps, and stated that their colour would be carmine.

The first printing took place in September, 1849, and consisted of 144,000 copies on thin paper; the colour was *pale carmine-red*. This printing was quickly exhausted, so a second printing of 84,000 copies was made in exactly the same shade, but on thick paper. Finally, in August, 1850, there was a third printing of 54,000 copies on both thick and medium paper.

In order to make all values uniform in appearance, the 10 and 20 centimes stamps were printed in the same design as the 40 centimes. The following circular gives notice of the change:—

"POSTAGE STAMPS—UNIFORM DESIGNS.

"No. 661. Brussels, 10 August, 1850.

"I have the honour to inform you that in the future the 10 and 20 centimes postage stamps will be of the same design as the 40 centimes (i.e. King's Head in medallion, word 'POSTES' above, value in words below, and figures of value in upper corners).

"This change will admit of all postage stamps

being exactly alike, as they are all reproduced from the same original die; the only possible difference will be in the figures of value, which have to be added to the matrix dies made from the original die for each value.

"The colours, *bistre*, *blue*, and *carmine*, will remain unaltered.

"THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL."

In July, 1850, the 10 and 20 centimes stamps of the new design were printed; there was only one printing, and that was a small one; that had evidently to be, as they made use of the remainder of the paper used for the first issue, and this paper had already been used for 282,000 of the 40 centimes.

The stamp-printing office printed 498,000 copies of the 10 centimes, and 376,000 of the 20 centimes, divided as follows:—

	Thin paper.	Thick paper.	Total.
10 c.	288,000	210,000	498,000
20 c.	252,000	124,000	376,000

All values are known with both inverted and double watermark; this peculiarity occurring because the lower portion of each sheet showed the following additional watermark: "Ministère des Travaux Publics—Bruxelles—Belgique—Postes." Copies are naturally to be found watermarked LL as usual, together with a portion of one of the letters of the above wording.

REFERENCE LIST.

Printed on white paper, of varying quality.
Wmk. LL in frame.

(a) Thin paper.

10 centimes, deep brown, grey-brown.
20 " blue, deep blue.
40 " carmine-red, pale carmine-red.

(b) Thick or medium paper.

10 centimes, deep brown, grey-brown.
20 " blue, deep blue.
40 " carmine-red, pale carmine-red.

ESSAYS OF THE ADOPTED DESIGN.

Very thick, white paper.

10 c., deep green, blue.
20 c., blue, carmine, deep red, yellow, violet, orange, yellow-green, black.
40 c., black.

Laid, white paper.

(No value), brown, blue, red, black.

Wove, white paper.

(No value), black, blue, red.

White card.

(No value), black, deep brown, deep blue.

(To be continued.)

International Philatelic Exhibition, Amsterdam

To be held from June 3 to 10, 1909, in the Bellevue Building, Leidsche Kade, at Amsterdam

JUDGES: F. Breitfuss, St. Petersburg, Russia; H. J. Duveen, London, England; Jhr. Mr. H. A. Elias, Arnhem, Holland; J. Goossen Czn, Amsterdam, Holland; Jhr. C. Ph. L. van Kinschot, Tiel, Holland; Dr. jur. Paul Kloss, Dresden, Germany; H. P. Manus, Amsterdam, Holland; William Moser, Rowayton, U.S. America; H. Ritter de la Renotière, Wien, Austria; Bar. A. de Reuterskiöld, Lausanne, Switzerland; Adolphe Schoeller, Montmorency, France.

CLASSES.

Division I.—Holland and Colonies.

Class I.

Section A.—Unused postage stamps of Holland and Colonies (in the widest sense of the term).

Section B.—Used postage stamps of Holland and Colonies (in the widest sense of the term).

Section C.—Postage stamps of Holland and Colonies (in the widest sense of the term), both used and unused.

Section D.—Postage stamps of Holland or Colonies which cannot be included in Sections A, B, or C.

Class II.

Section A.—Postal cancellations of Holland, or Holland and Colonies.

Section B.—Postal cancellations on stamps only of Holland, or Holland and Colonies.

Class III.

Section A.—Proofs and essays of the postage stamps of Holland and Colonies.

Class IV.

Section A.—Used and unused entires of Holland and Colonies.

Division II.—Specialized Collections.**Class I.**

Open to exhibitors who have been awarded a gold medal at any previous international exhibition of postage stamps, provided that such medal and diploma be forwarded for exhibition with the exhibit.

Section A.—Specialized collections of the stamps of one European country, with the exception of Holland. One prize only—Great gold medal.

Section B.—Specialized collections of the stamps of one Asiatic country, with the exception of Dutch Indies. One prize only—Great gold medal.

Section C.—Specialized collections of the stamps of one African country. One prize only—Great gold medal.

Section D.—Specialized collections of the stamps of one American country, with the exception of Surinam and Curaçao. One prize only—Great gold medal.

Section E.—Specialized collections of the stamps of one Australian country. One prize only—Great gold medal.

Class II.

Open to exhibitors who have had an award other than a gold medal at any previous international exhibition of postage stamps, provided that such medal and diploma be forwarded for exhibition with the exhibit.

Section A.—Specialized collections of the stamps of one European country, with the exception of Holland.

Section B.—Specialized collections of the stamps of one Asiatic country, with the exception of Dutch Indies.

Section C.—Specialized collections of the stamps of one African country.

Section D.—Specialized collections of the stamps of one American country, with the exception of Surinam and Curaçao.

Section E.—Specialized collections of the stamps of one Australian country.

Class III.

Open to those who have never been awarded any prize at an international exhibition.

Section A.—Specialized collections of the stamps of one European country, with the exception of Holland.

Section B.—Specialized collections of the stamps of one Asiatic country, with the exception of Dutch Indies.

Section C.—Specialized collections of the stamps of one African country.

Section D.—Specialized collections of the stamps of one American country, with the exception of Surinam and Curaçao.

Section E.—Specialized collections of the stamps of one Australian country.

Division III.—General Collections.**Class I.**

Section A.—Stamps of three European countries, with the exception of Holland.

Section B.—Stamps of three Asiatic countries, with the exception of Dutch Indies.

Section C.—Stamps of three African countries.

Section D.—Stamps of three American countries, with the exception of Surinam and Curaçao.

Section E.—Stamps of three Australian countries.

Class II.

* **Section A.**—Collections of at least 15,000 postage stamps contained in one or more albums, with or without descriptive matter. First prize—Great gold medal.

Presented by the Internationalen Postwertzeichen-Händler-Verein zu Berlin.

* **Section B.**—Collections of at least 10,000 stamps, contained in one or more albums, with or without descriptive matter.

* **Section C.**—Collections of less than 10,000 stamps, contained in one or more albums, with or without descriptive matter.

Division IV.—Collections of Entires.**Class I.**

Section A.—Entires of from one to three European countries or European colonies, with the exception of Holland and Colonies.

Section B.—Entires of any one of the remaining countries of the world not included under Section A, and always excepting Holland and Colonies.

Division V.—Collections not included in any of the Preceding Classes.**Class I.**

Section A.—Stamps on original covers.

Section B.—Collections of postage stamps or entires commencing or terminating at a fixed date, and which cannot properly be included in any of the preceding classes or divisions.

Section C.—Collections of proofs and essays (with the exception of Holland and Colonies), forgeries, curiosities, etc.

Division VI.—For Young Collectors.

Age limit 18 years.

Class I.

Section A.—Collections of the stamps of Holland and Colonies, contained either in albums, with or without descriptive matter, or on loose leaves in portfolios.

Section B.—Collections of at least 5000 stamps, contained in one or more albums, with or without descriptive matter.

Division VII.—Literature, Albums, and Accessories.**Class I. Literature.**

Section A.—Journals with or without advertisements, but not solely advertisements.

Section B.—Catalogues issued by recognized firms of dealers.

Section C.—Philatelic handbooks exhibited by their authors or publishers.

Class II. Albums and Accessories.

Section A.—Bound or unbound stamp albums, with or without descriptive matter.

Section B.—Philatelic accessories.

Extracts from the Rules and Regulations.

4. The number of exhibits from any one person is unlimited, but the same collection may not be entered in more than one division (which, the owner may please himself). All stamps must be mounted on loose sheets or cards, with the exception of collections contained in albums and entered for divisions marked with an asterisk (*).

5. The price of space is as follows :—

For stamps not contained in albums 5 fl. (8s. 4d.) per sq. metre.

For albums 5 fl. (8s. 4d.) per album.

For entires 2 fl. 50 c. (4s. 2d.) per sq. metre.

For Division V 3 fl. (5s. od.) each album or portfolio. With regard to entries for Section VII the Committee request intending competitors to communicate with them.

6. Competitors are requested as far as possible to use leaves from 13 to 14 inches high, and 9½ to 10½ inches wide, for mounting their stamps ; but leaves of other dimensions will be allowed. The leaves will be exhibited behind stout glass in shallow frames, and albums will be placed open in locked show cases : everything will be under the continual surveillance of a member of the Committee or of some properly appointed person.

7. Medals will be awarded in all classes, and the Jury will be empowered to award in each Division more than one Gold, Silver-Gilt, Silver, or Bronze medal, should they consider it advisable (except Division II, Class I).

8. No competitor may receive more than one medal in any one Division, nor more than three in the first three classes.

9. In default of special arrangements being made all exhibits will be insured by the Committee against risk of fire and burglary : for this insurance exhibitors will be charged 1 per 1000 [sic], the minimum charge being fl. 2.50 (4s. 2d.). Exhibits will be covered by insurance as soon as they are

actually received by the Committee, and will cease to be covered as soon as they are despatched to their owners, or when, after the close of the Exhibition, they are handed over for immediate removal.

10. The sum due to the Committee for space for exhibits, and for the insurance of the latter (should it be desired to insure), must be forwarded to the Committee at the same time as the exhibit. As long as the amount due remains unpaid nothing will be exhibited, and for any exhibit unaccompanied by a remittance the Committee will assume no responsibility.

12. The consent of His Excellency the Minister of Finance having been obtained, exhibits from abroad will be admitted free of duty. Under this arrangement exhibits may be sent by sea, rail, or post, but in all cases each parcel must have affixed to it two special labels, which may be obtained free of charge from the Committee. Exhibits must arrive at Amsterdam between May 23 and June 1, 1909.

They will be forwarded unopened direct from the frontier to the Exhibition building, where they will be opened in the presence of a Customs official and a member of the Committee. An advice of despatch, together with a declaration of contents in duplicate, must be forwarded to the Secretary. Advice of receipt in good condition will be sent immediately on arrival.

13. All exhibits sent from Holland must be forwarded, carriage paid, to the Secretary, Warmoesstraat 193, Amsterdam, between May 25 and 29. Senders will be notified of safe receipt immediately on arrival.

14. All exhibits intended for competition must be in their entirety the property of the exhibitor, but exhibits will also be received *hors concours*. Exhibits by members of the jury will of necessity be *hors concours*.

BARBADOS

By E. D. Bacon and F. H. Napier

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The Post at Papua

By A. ASHBY

THOSE of us here in England who grumble because the pillar-box happens to be five minutes' walk from our houses, and who have only five deliveries a day instead of six like our neighbouring town, may read with interest (and perhaps profit) the accounts and the experiences of a missionary who is stationed a long way up the coast from the nearest post office (Samarai).

Letters for Papua first go to Sydney, Australia, and from thence each alternate fortnight the mail is sent via the Solomons and via Cooktown to Port Moresby and Samarai, from which towns they are sent to villages up the coast as opportunity occurs. The *Burns Phillip* steamer from Sydney calls for mails at Brisbane, sailing south to Samarai and Port Moresby to Cooktown, collecting bags from the Papuan post offices, which are forwarded in an Australian liner; then turning round it goes back again to Papua with a larger mail which has been sent up the Australian coast to meet her.

The following extracts from a series of most interesting letters sent home show something of the way things are done out there:—

"*DOGURA, Aug. 18th, 1907.*

"I had my first correspondence from England yesterday, dated June 21st, so that it has taken nearly two months to reach me, and it was rather a quick passage too, for a schooner belonging to a friendly trader happened to be coming up this way, and brought our mail bag and landed it this afternoon, much to our surprise and delight, for we had not expected to get any letters until next week. This mail came by the new s.s. *Makambo*, which left Sydney on July 26th, and by which I was to have come via the Solomons. . . . Letters and papers are sure to get delayed on their way to me sometimes. The P.O. at Samarai delivers them to our agent there in a big mail bag, which is sent up along the coast as opportunity offers, and it is gradually emptied at station after station, until it gets right up to the boundary of the German territory near the Mambari river. Most of us send our letters down unstamped, and our man at Samarai attends to that for us and posts them, entering up the cost against the sender."

"*WAINGERA, Sept. 19th, 1907.*

"We had just finished breakfast this morning when the cookie boy told us that the 'schoon-ah' was sighted. . . . 9.15 p.m.

"A wonderful day it has been—this first real mail day for me in New Guinea. M. and I readied up the house until 10.30, when it was time to go out and meet the schooner. Our crew of six boys was very swagger, all in their war-

paint, necklaces, armlets, leglets, and brilliant scarlet blooms of hibiscus stuck into their frizzy hair. The whale boat was spick and span. It is the trimmest craft in the Mission, and M. always keeps the paint in perfect order. . . . I had forty-nine letters, four post cards, and thirty-seven packets of papers. It has taken me all the rest of the day to open and read them hurriedly through."

"*WAINGERA, Oct. 13th, 1907.*

"A mail came in last night without any warning at all, forty-eight letters and forty-four newspapers! Two local policemen returned from Cape Nelson, bringing the bag with them. They must have walked from Miaku. Anyhow, it has got here somehow."

"*WAINGERA, Nov. 3rd, 1907.*

"A canoe got here this morning on its way to Tufi, so I shall send my letters by it to-morrow. . . . The policeman in charge of the canoe will take my letters, and on his return, in two or three days, will surely bring along a mail, as my letters appear to be sent by the Samarai people via Cape Nelson, and I long for it!"

"*WAINGERA, Dec. 4th, 1907.*

"I was just finishing this about 7.30 and going to get ready for Matins, when Jukuk came to tell me 'The Government *He come!*' with great emphasis on the pronoun. After service sure enough there was a sail some three or four miles out at sea, and I quite made up my mind that V— was on board, so I put back breakfast and arranged an extra dish, and then I straightened up the house a bit. This was apparently an instinct which I learned with my coppery neighbours, for when I passed through the village to the boathouse there must have been a hundred men and women tidying up the ground about their houses. Evidently this Government is a real power in the land. I was at the boathouse at nine o'clock, and the boat was within half a mile of the beach, no wind, and a police crew was rowing. The boat was a heavy one, and as they had but four oars their progress was slow. When the boat was near enough I was surprised and disappointed to see no white man on board—a native police sergeant and a crew of five native police. They were rather fine chaps in their way, the pick of the N.G. boys physically, and much improved by their couple of years or so in barracks at Port Moresby, with plenty of food and regular drill. They wear a smart uniform of blue serge loin cloth and a sort of loose jumper. The armed men have the same uniform trimmed with scarlet cloth. Some of the men still wear the little red and blue forage caps which were in use until recently, but most go about bareheaded, if a man can ever be so who has a tremendous crop of frizzy hair!

"The sergeant came ashore and delivered to me a fair-sized sack. 'A mail, sah.' There was a letter from V— saying the boat was to

make all speed to Makawa, but that they would wait a reasonable time if I wished to send anything on there, so I took the sergeant to the house and did up a bundle of letters which were waiting. I gave him six sticks of tobacco, rather heavy payment; but I am always so thankful when letters come, so I believe in hitting it off well with these good 'boys'; they are always so keen in doing things for us, and their keenness must be kept up by a little generosity now and then."

"Dec. 9th, 1907.

"A native policeman called ten minutes ago on his way to Tufi. I have persuaded him to wait half an hour while I just get my letters ready. There is unusual excitement in the village police circles, it seems. Canoes are going all up and down the coast. There have been some cases of assault of late, and some of the folk are persuaded that the Waingera man who died a fortnight ago was tomahawked by the fierce Dordiri tribe. But it is an ill wind, etc., and I am at least able to send my letters off."

Some letters were sent in a canoe to Cape Nelson by some native "boys," who were going to Winiapi (*en route*), taking taro and bananas to a friend who was going to Samarai. They were given a stick of tobacco each and a box of matches, with a promise of more if they had to wait at Tufi (Cape Nelson) for a mail back. The sequel in the missionary's own words is very interesting, showing the honesty of these natives:—

"WAINGERA, May 18th, 1908.

"My last batch of letters which I sent off on Friday (or was it Saturday?) came back to me to-

day. I was going towards the boathouse about four this afternoon when I met a party which had just landed from the direction of Tufi. They carried my parcel carefully wrapped in the identical newspaper, and my little bundle of letters in their string bag. An involved story which I did not fully understand. But it seems they got only to Winiapi, about half-way to Tufi, when they heard that their friends had already gone to Samarai by the *Merrie England*. No good going any further with their present of food. They said, and I believe them, that they would have gone right on for the sake of delivering my letters as they had promised, but there was a big sea on. I had given them three sticks of tobacco when they started, and a little box of trade matches. They brought two of the sticks back and nearly all the matches, and they apologized for having 'eaten' (smoked) the other stick before they got to Winiapi. They said they were sorry. Of course, I returned one of the sticks and the matches, but I felt rather mean at retaining the third stick. But it would not have done to have handed the whole lot over; after all, in the New Guinea way of looking at things, the work hadn't been done, and they were entitled to nothing—not even to the stick they had 'eaten,' and that was what they really meant about their 'sorrow.' But I could give one more stick without confusing issues. I have been able to send the letters and parcel off once more. A policeman, whose father lives in Rainu, had been home for a holiday. He came to see me this morning to say good-bye and to buy some tobacco (eighty sticks—10s. worth). I knew he was not really going till sundown, and that he paid his visit of courtesy so early for the sake of the tobacco; so I sent for him, and he has taken my letters and parcel. Hope they'll have better luck this time!"

Great Britain

By PLAIN ANCHOR

(REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED.)

REGARDING my article in your issue of October 24, and Lord Crawford's letter in that of November 14, which has made the matter of far greater interest to all collectors as well as to myself, I will give what information I can, and hope that others will do the same.

Of the "Rainbow" series I have a photo of a sheet of twelve marked "Pruss. Paper Nov. 23rd A." I have the *rose hortensia* cancelled with cross patée, and on the back of it is written, I believe in Sir Rowland Hill's hand, "common prepared fluid"; as these words are not quite complete, probably the adjoining stamps are in existence. If so, will the owner supply the remainder of the endorsement?—which, however, may only relate to the obliteration.

I have two complete sheets of the same series, that in *blue* is endorsed "B Pn Blue" in pencil at the top, and "B pruss. blue

plain" at bottom. My sheet in *rose* is endorsed "C.W.—No. 1," and is on plain paper.

A curious thing is that I have a "Rainbow" red-brown, cancelled with cross patée, with a long piece of margin at the top, and both the stamp and the margin have a *Small Crown watermark*, and full thick brown gum. This is the only watermarked specimen I know of. Do others exist, and if so, under what circumstances was this paper used?

I have also a plate proof of the design, in black, with head completely engraved, but no postage tablet, or stars, and no value or letter blocks, and I should be glad to know for what purpose this was made.

Lord Crawford, with his usual courtesy to other collectors, has been good enough to give valuable information regarding the 2d. stamps in *blue* on Dickinson paper, and

all collectors, I am sure, most sincerely hope he is in a position to continue his "Provisional Note on the History of the 1d. stamp of Great Britain, May, 1840," published in *The London Philatelist* of November, 1907.

Referring to his letter of October 30, 1908, may we hope Lord Crawford will confer a further favour by giving some particulars of the plate of three stamps, used for the experimental work when it was decided to change the colour of the penny stamp?

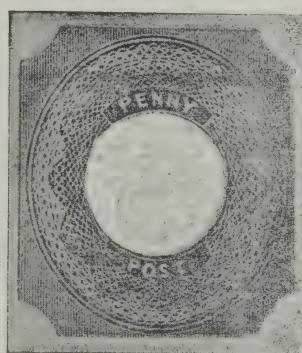
As regards the Dickinson paper stamps, I have the 2d. in red, but it shows no guide lines or other marks by which I can identify it with any stamp on the sheet of twelve 2d., void corners with lines, to which Lord Crawford refers. I have, since writing my previous article, purchased a sheet of these at a price I prefer not to dwell too much upon. This sheet is watermark Small Crown, and on the left margin, on right of stamp No. 12, is also a Small Crown, so probably the original sheet was larger; curiously the watermark "POSTAGE" on bottom margin is inverted, whereas the crowns are not.

As to the total number printed (see p. 320); of the two sheets of six, which I mentioned in the *Monthly Journal*, February, 1907, the red, I remember, had a wide margin at top and right, and the blue a similar margin at bottom and right; the bottom row of the red and the top row of the blue were identical stamps, and as the bottom edge of the second row of the red and the top edge of the top row of the blue showed the gum over the front edge of the stamps, it would appear that the sheets, at the time they were gummed, at any rate, consisted of only eight stamps; this is corroborated by my copy in blue, which is No. 6 on Lord Crawford's diagram, and clearly shows gum at the top edge on the face of the stamp, as does also the copy of the 2d., red, on the bottom edge. I submit, therefore, that the sheets originally consisted of only eight stamps, 1 to 8 in the red, and 5 to 12 in the blue, because the pieces of paper sent by Mr. Dickinson were not large enough to take an impression from the whole of the plate, but only from two horizontal rows; if I am correct in my surmise, this would mean twenty-four in red, and sixteen in blue, of which six are in Messrs. Dickinson's keeping, three in Lord Crawford's collection, one in my own, and I believe another belongs to Mrs. John Evans, total eleven, leaving five to be accounted for, some of which, if not all, are probably with the official papers.

Major Evans, in the issue of November 28, refers to my circular with Mr. Sievier's essays. I suggest that probably the principal *raison d'être* for the production was that the 1d., black, had popularized the Queen's Head design. As to the stamps themselves,

they are of considerable beauty, but being printed in pale and very artistic colours, it was not possible to bring out their beauty in the illustrations. Another point, which I think has been missed, is that they are very finely embossed in white relief, which is one of the best preventives against cleaning, as any collector can ascertain by damping an 1847 octagonal, but I would not advise the experiment if the stamp is of any value. I think this embossing is alluded to in the circular by reference to the die-sinking.

I do not think the majority of my readers will prefer the earlier design, illustrated from my collection herewith:—



I must protest at the suggestion that the three essays are not those originally affixed to the Sievier circular, and as I have shown them to Mr. C. J. Phillips, I trust he will confirm this. Further, Major Evans may not be aware that a single similar specimen is in the Berlin Museum.

The cartoon is dated, as may be seen, August 13, 1873, and I believe formed part of the propaganda of the postmen and Post Office servants, which culminated in the Postmen's Federation and the Tweedmouth Committee of Inquiry. I have a copyright volume printed for private sale, entitled *The Inter-Departmental Committee on Post Office Establishments*. So far back as 1860 *The Times* warmly espoused the cause of the London letter-carriers.

I thank Major Evans for his notes, and shall be pleased to lend him any of the originals referred to, or to give any information in my power.

On page 320, evidently the figures for eleven have been twice taken for the Roman two (II) where reference is made to the 1d. on Dickinson paper, and in the last line it is shown that Messrs. Wright and Creeke quoted plate 2, instead of the small experimental plate of 2d. with void corners, of the existence of which possibly they were not aware.

Another stamp of which I can find no

record is a 2d., blue, perf. 14, S.C., cancelled with the trial stamp, "Helmsley, 2.4.56," in which the stars are very defective, and there is also a largish spot of colour on the nose. Can any reader help me?

The Christian name of the celebrated engraver Heath is a mystery which perhaps can be best cleared up by the present eminent firm.

In conclusion, I hope other collectors will take up some more of the points raised regarding the early history of the introduction of the stamps of their own country.

I also desire to record my thanks to Lord Crawford for drawing attention to this matter.

Note.—Since the publication of my notes in the *Weekly* of November 28, "Plain Anchor" has kindly shown me the originals

of the Essays attached to Mr. Sievier's circular of April, 1841. I am bound to acknowledge that there is a great deal more to be said in their favour than would appear from the illustrations, and if "Plain Anchor" had given us some description of them in his article I should not have spoken of them as I did. There is no trace of any "engineering," but the whole design is embossed in white on a coloured ground, and in one case the background of the head is in a different colour from that of the rest of the design, showing a combination of embossing and double colour printing which no doubt would have proved an insurmountable difficulty to the forger. The engraving is fine, but the printing (as hinted in the MS. note at the foot of the circular) was very inferior, and thus produced an exceedingly poor effect.—EDW. B. EVANS.

Foreign Notes

By FRANK PHILLIPS

"Farthest North Post Office"

REFERRING to a paragraph that appeared in *G.S.W.*, November 14, 1908, under the above heading, I find that Spitzbergen was stated to be "situate partially on the *seventieth parallel*": this should have read "*eightieth parallel*," as several post offices are known north of the *seventieth*.

Mr. McKetchnie, of Ottawa, has forwarded a most interesting envelope, which according to the postmarks was despatched from Point Barrow, Alaska, on December 23, 1902, arrived at Council, Alaska, on April 8, 1903, and finally was delivered in Ottawa, Canada, on July 2, 1903, or six months and ten days after it was despatched. The distance from Point Barrow to Ottawa is about 6500 miles as the crow flies.

Mr. McKetchnie states that the letter was sent by Rev. Mr. Marsh, who was a missionary, and also fulfilled the post of postmaster at the same time.

The actual quantity of mail forwarded from Point Barrow must be exceedingly small, and a portion of the journey would probably have to be performed on dog-sleighs, as was explained a short time ago in these columns. The envelope is franked with an ordinary 2 cent stamp of the United States, but each letter must cost Uncle Sam nearer \$2, or £2, or even more, for that matter.

An Innovation—the "Letter-Telegram"

SOME of the French dailies have lately published the following information:—

"Having completed the necessary arrange-

ments with the Treasury, Monsieur Simyan (the Minister of Posts) is going to make a trial of a new system of expedited correspondence, the 'letter-telegram.'

"An existing arrangement already permits of an express letter being delivered as soon as it arrives at the distributing post office, a special express fee being payable for this service. But express letters are conveyed by the usual means as far as the office of destination, and up to the present there has been no means other than the telegraph or telephone of communicating with friends at a distance, after the evening mails have been despatched.

"The 'letter-telegram' should fulfil a long-felt want, and will be worked as follows:—Messages may be despatched by telegraph from any place having an evening or night telegraph service, which will be delivered next morning with the first delivery of letters: the rates are extremely low, viz. 1 centime per word; minimum payment, 50 centimes.

"Monsieur Simyan has decided to inaugurate the new system on December 1, on trial for a limited period to see if it is financially successful."

A Royalist Stamp

IN *L'Histoire des Timbres français* there is a reference to a label portraying le Comte de Chambord, which was widely used by the Monarchists about thirty years ago, the Count being the so-called rightful King of France.

The Orleanist party of the present day has seen fit to resurrect the idea, and during the last few days the bulk of the letters despatched by Monarchists have borne a label upon them portraying the Duke of Orleans.

As will be seen from the accompanying illustration, the Duke is given the title of Philippe VIII of France by his adherents.



Of course these labels have absolutely no franking power, but we refer to them as curiosities : they are perforated and are all printed in sky-blue.

We have seen many of them on letters, properly cancelled with the post office obliterating stamp, but that only serves to point out again that a cancellation is no proof of the official character of a stamp, as it is generally impressed owing to the proximity of the label to proper postage stamps.

Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste.

Airing a Grievance by Post

ACCORDING to *L'Annonce Timbrologique*, the inhabitants of Renaix, in Belgium, have discovered a novel way of airing their grievances. On every letter they stick a label bearing the following inscription :—

" Renaix (22,000 inhabitants) requires a new post office ! Postal business done, £280,000 per annum ! 21 employés ! Post office is only 25 square yards in area ! Yearly rental, only £24 ! Area of public corridor, only 8 square yards ! Second-class post office, in an insanitary condition ! Horrible draughts !"

It gives cause for amusement when one grasps the fact that the postal administration is itself obliged to deliver throughout the country letters bearing a catalogue of its shortcomings.

Imperforate Current French Stamps

THE following paragraphs are extracted from *Le Timbrophile de France*, and should be of some interest to specialists of French stamps :—

" We will not pause to discuss the imperforate variety of the current 5 c., green, 'Sémeuse,' which has lately come upon the market in large quantities. A judicial inquiry has been ordered to deal with the matter. But we have to note the appearance of imperforate copies of the current 10 c., vermilion, of the 'Sémeuse' type, which were officially issued by error.

" A sheet of stamps in this condition was discovered amongst the ordinary stock by a young employé in the Mans Post Office ; he began to amuse himself by cutting them up with a pair of scissors, but was luckily interrupted by a certain military officer, who, being a keen philatelist, took a block of twenty-five for his collection.

" The clerk began to think that imperforate stamps might interest a collector friend of his in Paris, to whom he at once wrote. By return of post he received a money order and a request to send his friend all that were left.

" He had no sooner despatched the remaining seventy-five copies to his friend, than a superior officer, who had heard rumours of the find, came and asked for a block of four for his collection, but found that he was too late.

" Not to be outdone, he at once wrote to the clerk's friend in Paris, who was kind enough to send him a block for nothing."

Foreign Post Offices in China

THE possible abolition of the post offices of foreign countries in China was referred to in these columns a short time back, and I believe that doubts were expressed as to whether the "Powers that be" would consent to withdraw their offices, unless the postal affairs of China were placed on a much better footing than they are at present.

However, that happy time, which was supposedly somewhat distant, is apparently closer than was imagined. The first evidence of China's desire to enter the International Postal Union lies in the issue of the 2, 4, and 10 cent stamps in green, red, and blue, the colours adopted by the Union ; of these the 2 and 10 cent have already appeared, and the issue of the 4 cent may take place any day.

New Issues and Discoveries

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Dutch Indies.—We have received a new 2½ c. Postage Due stamp, which exists Variety I only (i.e. 34 loops. "T" of "BETALEN" over centre

of loop ; top branch of "E" in "TE" shorter than lower branch).

In the Catalogue we list a 30 c. as No. 331,

also existing Variety I only; this should come under a new heading, as set out below.



52

1908. Type 52 (Curaçao). Variety I only. Perf. 12½.
 332½ c., pale rose and black.
 337½ c., dull red and black.

Hungary.—A seventh value of the Postage Due stamps perforated 15 is to be added to the list, according to *Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste* (15.12.08).



51

1908. Type 51. Figure in black. Wmk. Crown, Type 9.
 (b) Perf. 15.
 317½ fr., green.

Paraguay.—We have been shown a number of new varieties that we have not hitherto chronicled.



30

1908. Type 30. Redrawn variety with thick figures, surcharged as Type 44, in black.
 5 c. on 40 c., blue.
 Variety. Surcharge inverted
 5 c. on 40 c., blue.

Habilitado en
5
 CENTAVOS

44



39

1908. Type 39 surcharged with Type 41, in black.
 Variety. (iii.) Double surcharge, one inverted.
 5 c. on 2 c., vermilion.

Habilitado
41
 CENTAVOS

41



66

1908. Type 66 surcharged as Type 43, in black.
 Variety. Surcharge inverted.
 5 c. on 10 c., purple.
 5 c. on 20 c., "
 1908. Type 39 surcharged as Type 44, in black.
 Variety. Surcharge inverted.
 5 c. on 60 c., chocolate.
 1908. Type 66 surcharged as Type 44, in black.
 Variety. Surcharge inverted.
 5 c. on 60 c., deep blue.

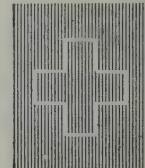
Habilitado
en
5
 CENTAVOS

43

Switzerland.—Baron A. de Reuterskiöld sends a 1 franc stamp of the new design, the paper, watermark, and perforation being as usual.



16



13

1908. Type 16. Figures of value, figure of Helvetia, and frame-line in first colour. Granite paper. Wmk. Type 13. Perf. 11½, 12.
 252½ fr., pale green and deep claret.

Tasmania.—According to *The Australian Philatelist* (10.11.08), the 10s. has been issued on Crown and double-lined A paper, perforated 11.



20

1908. Type 20. Wmk. Crown over A, Type 33.
 (b) Perf. 11.
 240½ 10s., mauve and brown.

STAMPS AND STAMP COLLECTING. By Major E. B. EVANS

The young collector is frequently perplexed by the meaning of the various terms used in stamp collecting, and the fullest explanations of these will be found in this book.

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JANUARY 9, 1909

VOL. IX.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

Greece—continued

IT was not until about July, 1901, that the long-projected new stamps made their appearance, and they were then quite different from those planned by the committee in 1895. According to a decree of 1896 the series was to consist of twelve values of uniform size (18 × 22 mm.), all of which, with the exception of the 3 dr. and 5 dr., were to have for design an improved drawing of the head of Hermes, whilst the two higher values were to show the "messenger god" in the act of putting on his winged sandals preparatory to flight. The proposed set included a 60 l. and omitted the 30 l. and 50 l., whilst with the exception of the 20 l. all the colours were different from those actually issued.

The committee in charge were severely critical, and the first designs not being approved, M. Zillieros, a Court painter who was a member of the committee and responsible also for the Olympic designs, was commissioned to make a trial. His designs were sent to M. Mouchon, of Paris, for engraving; but the results were still unsatisfactory, as were also those of an application to Vienna. The war caused the matter to be shelved for some time, and finally the well-known firm, Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co., of London, was entrusted with the work, the central design chosen being a representation of the "Hermes" of Giovanni da Bologna, now in the Bargello at Florence. The stamps are of handsome appearance, and appear to be produced by lithography from engravings in *taille-douce*. The *lepta* stamps are of the ordinary size, and very clearly printed, the "Postal Union" values, 5 l., 10 l., and 25 l., being of one type, and the remaining denominations of another.

The *drachmae* values are of larger size, and being printed in metallic colours do not show up so well. The smaller stamps were printed in sheets of 100, ten rows of ten, and perforated 13½ with a "comb" machine, the larger ones in sheets of 50, five rows of ten, perforated 12½, with a single-line machine. There is a watermark in the paper, consist-

ing of a small crown over the letters "E. T.", which signify "Greek Post Office." The stamps were first of all printed on thick paper (28,000,000 being the first order), but later supplies of the *lepta* values have been printed on thinner paper on account of the tendency of the thick stamps to peel off letters.



1901. Lithographed. Perf.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 l., brown	. .	0 1 0 1
2 l., grey	. .	0 1 0 1
3 l., orange	. .	0 1 0 1
5 l., green	. .	0 2 0 1
10 l., carmine	. .	0 3 0 1
20 l., mauve	. .	0 4 0 1
25 l., blue	. .	0 6 0 1
30 l., purple	. .	0 9 0 6
40 l., sepia	. .	1 0 0 9
50 l., lake	. .	0 7 0 6
1 dr., black	. .	1 6 1 6
2 dr., bronze	. .	2 6 3 6
3 dr., silver	. .	3 9 —
5 dr., gold	. .	6 6 —

Early in 1902 a set of stamps was issued for use in the Parcel Post service. They bear the letters "A. M." in the upper corners,

and were only to be purchased in gold currency, for the same reason as explained concerning the "A. M." provisionals. They do not appear to have been in much request, for used copies are scarce, and possibly now that the silver and paper currency is so much improved they have been forgotten altogether. The design shows the head and neck (very classical as to length) of a redrawn "Hermes." Possibly it is one of the designs about which the original committee were so much exercised, for certainly the "helmet" is more a helmet and less of a "bonnet" than that appearing in the earlier designs. According to published accounts, one of the committee's chief objects was to improve the stamps in this particular respect. The stamps are lithographed in bright colours on white wove paper, without watermark, and are apparently produced by manufacturers of the regular issue.



1902. *Parcel Post stamps. No wmk. Perf 13½.*

- 5 l., orange.
- 25 l., emerald.
- 50 l., ultramarine.
- 1 dr., carmine.
- 2 dr., brown.

In 1906 more Olympic Games took place, and as was to be expected collectors were invited to contribute to the expenses by the purchase of another commemorative set of stamps. This time they were of much handsomer production than the earlier set, being beautifully engraved in *taille-douce* and printed by Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson, and Co., of London.

The stamps bear a strong likeness to the Cretan set of 1905, the work of the same manufacturers. They call for little comment, as the descriptions below the illustrations herewith give sufficient particulars. If more are needed, perhaps a perusal of Major Evans's humorous descriptions in the *M. J.* of December, 1905, and April, 1906, would suffice.



(Apollo throwing discus, 1l. and 2l.)



(Atlas, 3l. and 5l.)



(Victory.)



(Atlas offering the apples of Hesperides to Hercules, 25l. and 50l.)



(Struggle between Hercules and Antaeus.)



(Wrestlers.)



(Hermes with symbols of games and fetes.)



(Race, Ancient Greeks, 1 dr., 2 dr., and 3 dr.)



(Offerings for the Olympic Games.)

1906. *Olympic Games issue.* Wmk. Crown and "B.T." Perf 13½, 14.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 l., brown	0 1	0 1
2 l., grey-black	0 1	0 1
3 l., orange	0 1	0 1
5 l., green	0 1	0 1
10 l., red	0 3	0 1
20 l., claret	0 4	0 1
25 l., blue	0 6	0 2
30 l., purple	0 5	0 4
40 l., sepia	0 6	0 4
50 l., marone	0 8	0 3
1 dr., grey-black	1 3	1 0
2 dr., rose	2 6	2 3
3 dr., olive-yellow	3 6	3 6
5 dr., slate-blue	6 0	5 6

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Stock Books, and are, therefore, the Prices at which Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., will have pleasure in supplying any of the stamps that may be needed by any of our readers.

Here we in the stamp business look forward to, and welcome, our friends in the trade who visit us on business from America, Germany, France, Holland, etc. They are free to stay where they like, to bring their goods free into the country, and to sell them to any one without any restrictions whatever.

But how are the British treated abroad? If I go to Germany to sell goods, the first thing I must do is to go to the police, notify where I am stopping, answer a string of the most ridiculous questions, amongst which—in Berlin—I remember they asked me if I had provided for my children, if I had any special marks on my body, and dozens of others as absurd; and then, after paying a smart fee, in from three to six days they will grant you a *gewerbeschein* or licence to trade, which is, I believe, only good for about fourteen days, when another fee must be paid and a renewal of the licence is granted. This is good for one town only, and, strictly speaking, if I leave Berlin and go to Leipzig the same thing should be gone through again.

In Holland it is even worse. All stamps going into that country are subject to a duty of 5 per cent on the marked value of the stamps: if you cross the frontier with a book of stamps worth £2000, you must deposit £100. I think that if you *prove* you bring the same stamps out of the country they will refund the money, but proof is difficult, and so we in the trade leave Holland severely alone.

The Manchester Exhibition and Philatelic Congress

THE arrangements for the Postage Stamp Exhibition and Philatelic Congress, which are to be held at the Hulme Town Hall, Manchester, on February 18, 19, and 20,

Topical Notes

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

Recent Purchase

WE have recently purchased a very fine specialized collection of New Zealand postage stamps. The old pence issues are a wonderful lot and nearly a thousand in number.

The stamps have been carefully selected during many years, and the owner made a point of obtaining the unused stamps with the full gum and the used as lightly cancelled as possible; in the used he also made a point of including a number of dated postmarks.

The collection is unusually strong in pairs, strips, and blocks of four and six. For instance, there are forty-five blocks of four unused and with gum in the pence issues.

The stamps have been priced by the quotations that will appear in the 1909 Catalogue.

This fine collection is now priced and can be sent to collectors who wish to have an early choice.

Duty on our Catalogues in Australia

OUR esteemed wholesale agents for Australia, Messrs. Fred. Hagen, Ltd., of Sydney, announce that they have had to raise the price of our Catalogues to collectors to 3s. each, owing to the action of the Custom authorities, who have recently imposed a duty of 6d. per pound on all stamp catalogues imported from abroad.

This is tariff reform operating against the old country, and it is quite time that we in this country took some steps in return to protect our own trade.

Licence to Trade in Germany

IN writing the above I have had called to mind the ease with which the foreigner can come to this country and sell his goods, as compared with the difficulties we have in Germany.

are making satisfactory progress, and everything points to the event proving an assured success. Mr. I. J. Bernstein, the President of the Manchester Junior Philatelic Society, has just received a communication from the Earl of Derby, who, as Lord Stanley, was Postmaster-General from 1903 to 1905, signifying his willingness to become a Patron of the Exhibition and Congress. The Earl of Crawford, K.T., one of our leading philatelists and a Vice-President of the Royal Philatelic Society, is also a Patron. The Congress, the first of its kind to be held in this country, is receiving the unanimous support of all the philatelic societies, and will be undoubtedly a successful and unique gathering of all the prominent disciples of Philately. The Exhibition is to be open to the public entirely free by ticket, obtainable at the Exhibition Offices, 9 Albert Square, Manchester.—*Manchester Courier*, 17.11.08.

I have received an advance copy of the programme of the arrangements and publish extracts elsewhere.

Now that the Manchester Juniors are an independent body, the spirit of emulation is no doubt strongly pronounced, and possibly an effort to "go one better" than the Junior Exhibition held last year in London is being made. I am asked to publish the following paragraph and commend it to the notice of *G.S.W.* readers:—

"The Committee beg to intimate that Guarantee Funds to defray the initial expenses of the Exhibition have been raised amongst the members of the Manchester Junior Philatelic Society, but, with a view to affording the general body of philatelists an opportunity of contributing towards the expenses of the proposed Exhibition and Congress, a Subscription List has been opened, and donations will be gladly accepted and receive acknowledgment in the Philatelic Press.

"As no charge is made for admission or for space for exhibits, funds are urgently required.

"The names of all those who support the Exhibition by subscription will appear in the Official Catalogue.

"Yours truly,
"J. R. M. ALBRECHT, Hon. Treas."

Stamp Collections Register

A THIRD edition of this Register is now ready, and can be sent to any one on demand.

Since I started this Register the idea seems to have caught on, and I find that forty-nine collections have been entered for sale, ranging in price from £25 to £2100 each.

In the new edition of the Register there are twenty collections for sale, amounting to £6117. Several of these are undoubtedly great bargains, and our publishers will be glad to show any or all of these to any one who cares to inspect them at 391 Strand.

Since starting the Register we have sold twenty-five collections for the sum of £3192, and the owners have withdrawn four collections amounting to £875.

The total value of the collections entered in the Register up to date exceeds

Ten thousand pounds.

It is a rather curious fact that the trade are the largest buyers. Of the collections disposed of, we have sold about 70 per cent to dealers, and only about 30 per cent to collectors.

Collections have been sold in Norway, Germany, Belgium, and the United States, and some negotiations are in hand with buyers in Australia.

We shall be glad to receive some suitable collections for inclusion in this Register.

"Monthly Journal"

A FRIEND of mine misses Nos. 2, 12, 20, and 25 of the above to complete his file, and has asked me to mention this in the hope that some reader has duplicates. If so, kindly send to 391 Strand, naming price required.

How Much is your Collection Worth?

By LEWIS FOSTER

THE above is a question that frequently crops up when showing your stamps to your friends, and more especially when the friends are non-collectors, and in the majority of cases the owner says, "Oh, I don't know; I should think about so much." I have been asked the question so often of late, and have usually replied as above, till one day I realized that I might very easily be a few pounds out either way. I keep a

careful account of my buying and selling of stamps, but my collection, from a business point of view, has been somewhat neglected.

I therefore decided to draw up a catalogue of my collection, together with the value of the stamps. Without being accused of pandering to the speculative side of stamp collecting, I thought a few words describing my methods of drawing up the catalogue would perhaps be appreciated by brother

collectors, more especially beginners. I purchased a small book about 8×4 inches, having the paper ruled with the usual cash lines, etc. If you can get one with pages numbered, so much the better for preparing an index when the list is finished.

Commencing with Great Britain, my first entry was as follows :—

Great Britain. £ s. d.
No. 1 | 1d., black, 1840 ... || 0 | 0 | 6

Of course, later more details will have to be added to the description column, the various perfs., watermarks, etc. being noted. I take the stamps just as they come on the pages of my album (a Gibbons Imperial), and number them consecutively in the first column; at the end of each country I leave a page or more, according to the quantity of its issues, to allow for future additions, and in listing each country I begin with the first stamp I have as No. 1. In the event of my having a complete set of any issue, I save space by entering it as follows :—

Nos. 16 to 22 | Set of 7 : 1d., 1d., 2d., 2½d.,	X	£ s. d.
3d., 6d., 1s. 	3d., 6d., 1s.	|| 0 | 8 | 3
X 33 | 1s., red and green, perf. 14,		
Crown CA ... ..		|| 1 | 2 | 9

I also mark the first column with a cross (x) to indicate that a stamp is unused; and if a set is mixed, containing both used and unused, I mark the value as above, indicating that the 2d. and 3d. of that particular set are mint.

At the end of each list I add up the cash total, which I enter at the foot of the page in pencil, so that it can be altered when other stamps are added; and when I have completed the list of every country, I prepare an index at the back of the book as follows :—

		No. of Stamps.	Value.
Page 1	Great Britain	68	6 | 8 | 2
" 8	Antigua	15	0 | 17 | 2

The number of stamps and value column I enter in lead pencil, which allows these columns to be altered, together with the grand totals, whenever any more stamps are added. By this means I always have a record of the number of stamps in my collection, together with a very fair idea of the approximate value. In my value column I always enter the price I pay for the stamp, and for some time I have always carefully pencilled the amount paid for a stamp on the back of the stamp hinge when mounting it in the album.

Another point in favour of having a ready means of estimating the value of a collection is, that should a collector die the album frequently passes to people who know nothing of stamp collecting, and it may be disposed of at a tithe of its real value. In my own case, I am the only member of our family taking any interest in stamps, and I live in a small town where collectors are few and far between, so that beyond knowing that I had spent a "lot of money" on stamps, no real value could be given of my collection by those who might have the disposal of it. Therefore, if only for that reason alone, a list giving the value, as near as possible, should always be kept. I am quite sure that if any collector does prepare a list of his stamps he will be astonished at the fund of information, not merely the value, which he will gain in the drawing of it up, and surely that should be quite enough reward for any real collector to make him set about the task at once. In conclusion, the task will fill up the long winter evenings beautifully.

The Postage Stamps of Belgium—contd.

By CH. DE BONT

Issue of January 15, 1851.

THE stamps of this issue were not placed on sale until about January 15, 1851, and they differ from those of the preceding issue in that the watermark consists of the letters "LL" without frame, as



here illustrated. They were printed in colour on white paper, watermarked as above, and varying very considerably in quality.

The chief point of interest attaching to this issue consists in the various papers.

First printing.—Took place in January, 1851, on thin paper.

10 c., greyish brown .	400,000 copies.
20 c., deep blue .	300,000 ,
40 c., vermilion-red .	240,000 ,

Second printing.—Took place in September, 1851, and consisted of a larger quantity of stamps than the first printing. Thick paper.

10 c., greyish brown	4,500,000 copies.
10 c., deep brown	4,000,000 ,
20 c., deep blue	15,600 ,
40 c., vermilion	300,000 ,

Third printing.—On thick, yellowish paper.

10 c., russet-brown .	12,200 copies.
20 c., blue .	8,400 ,
40 c., vermilion-red .	15,600 ,

Fourth printing.—Took place towards the end of 1852, on the same paper as the third printing.

10 c., bistre . . .	60,000 copies.
20 c., blue . . .	50,000 "
40 c., vermilion . . .	40,000 "

Fifth printing.—Took place in February, 1853, on medium paper. This was one of the largest printings, consisting, as it did, of 128,000,000 stamps.

10 c., deep bistre . . .	70,000,000 copies.
20 c., deep blue . . .	50,000,000 "
40 c., carmine } . . .	8,000,000 "
40 c., vermilion } . . .	4,000,000 "

Sixth printing.—Took place in 1854, on ribbed paper.

10 c., brown . . .	100,000 copies.
20 c., blue . . .	60,000 "
40 c., carmine-red . . .	45,000 "

The paper used for this printing was used in such a way that stamps may be found with vertical, horizontal, and even diagonal ribbing.

Seventh printing.—Took place in 1855, on very thick, porous paper. I am unable to quote figures, but the printing was an exceedingly small one.

Eighth printing.—Took place in 1858, on a very thin paper, sometimes called *pelure*.

10 c., brown . . .	72,000 copies.
20 c., blue . . .	54,000 "
40 c., pale red . . .	36,000 "

Ninth printing (and last).—Took place in 1858, and is particularly interesting, owing to the employment of a peculiar kind of thick wove paper. As this paper dried very rapidly during the process of printing, the sizes of the impressions are often appreciably different from the stamps of other printings. Copies may be found with the oval measuring only 13×15 mm., instead of 18×21 mm., while the complete specimen may be only $15 \times 18\frac{1}{2}$ mm., instead of $18\frac{1}{2} \times 21\frac{3}{4}$ mm.

REFERENCE LIST.

Thin paper.

- 10 c., grey-brown, deep brown.
- 20 c., blue, deep blue, greenish blue.
- 40 c., carmine-red, vermilion-red.

Medium or thick paper.

- 10 c., grey-brown, deep brown.
- 20 c., blue, deep blue, cobalt.
- 40 c., carmine-red, vermilion-red.

Ribbed paper.

- 10 c., grey-brown, deep brown.
- 20 c., blue, deep blue, pale blue, greenish blue.
- 40 c., carmine-red.

Very thick, porous paper.

- 10 c., brown.
- 20 c., blue.
- 40 c., vermilion-red.

Varieties.

Stamps are known ribbed vertically, horizontally, and diagonally.

Issue of April 1, 1861.

The stamps of this issue are printed in colour on white paper, of varying quality. As regards design they are identical with those of the 1851 issue. The stamps are unwatermarked, and they are arranged in sheets containing three hundred stamps instead of two hundred each.

The following circular, issued by the Administration of Posts, refers to this change:—

"BRUSSELS, February 11, 1861.

"From March 1 next postage stamps will be printed from plates containing three hundred stamps, instead of the plates now in use, which contain two hundred.

"Consequently all lots of stamps sent off [To post offices?—ED. G.S.W.] on and after April 1 will consist of sheets charged at the following rates:—

30 francs per sheet of 10 c. stamps.

60 " " 20 c. ,"

120 " " 40 c. ,"

"For the Director-General,

"TASSIANA,

"Acting Director."

Because of this change in the number of stamps to a sheet, it was necessary to make use of paper of a larger size, and either to have fresh plates made or to have new portions added to the old ones. One result was that there are two distinct types in this issue, differing one from the other as regards the height of the medallions, and, in fact, the size of all portions of the stamp.

First type.—Same size as the stamps of 1850; medallion measures $14\frac{1}{4} \times 16\frac{1}{2}$ mm., and the whole stamp 18×21 mm.

Second type.—Medallion measures $14 \times 17\frac{1}{2}$ mm.; whole stamp $17\frac{1}{2} \times 22$ mm.

These stamps were printed in February, 1861, the quantities being 3,000,000 of the 10 centimes, 2,100,000 of the 20 centimes, and 300,000 of the 40 centimes.

The paper used varied very considerably in quality, so it is not at all uncommon to find in one delivery, or stock, stamps on thick, medium, and thin paper.

On June 1, 1861, to the stamps issued on April 1 was added a new value, a 1 centime, which was intended to frank printed matter. The issue of this stamp was sanctioned by the following Royal Decree:—

"LEOPOLD I, KING OF THE BELGIANS,

"To all who are present, and to all those to come. Greeting. We have decreed and do decree:—

"I. That a one centime stamp be issued to frank newspapers and other printed matter as

specified in paragraph 6 of the law of December 24, 1847.

"II. These stamps will bear our effigy; they will be inscribed 'Postes,' and also with the value in words, the latter being repeated in figures. They will be sold at all post offices in the kingdom.

"Our Minister of Public Works is instructed to carry out the directions of this decree.

"Given at Laeken, March 23, 1861.

"LEOPOLD.

"By the King.

"The Minister of Public Works,
"Jules Vanderstichelen."

A ministerial decree, dated May 14, 1861, announced that the 1 centime stamp would be issued on June 1: the mode of use of such stamp was also referred to. A circular issued during July, 1861, reminded the public that the stamp was intended for printed matter only, and that should letters be franked with it they would be treated as unpaid.

This 1 centime stamp was printed in March, April, and May, 1861, there being no less a quantity than 33,000,000 copies, on various qualities of paper. To begin with, the remainder of the paper used for the 10, 20, and 40 centimes (about five hundred sheets) was used; the balance was printed on medium and thin paper. A very few sheets of ribbed paper were used.

REFERENCE LIST.

(a) On thick, wove paper.

- 1 c., green.
- 10 c., brown.
- 20 c., blue.
- 40 c., red.

(b) On thin or medium paper.

- 1 c., green, pale green, deep green.
- 10 c., deep brown, grey-brown, pale russet-brown.
- 20 c., blue, pale blue, deep blue.
- 40 c., carmine-red, vermillion-red.

Varieties.

With large medallion.

- 1 c., 10 c., 20 c., 40 c.

With small medallion.

- 10 c., 20 c., 40 c.

Reprints.

- 1 c., pale yellow-green.
- 10 c., brown.
- 20 c., blue.
- 40 c., bright red.

Issue of April 11, 1863.

A number of reasons contributed to a decision arrived at by the Government to perforate their postage stamps. Some of these reasons were: the great increase that had taken place in the quantity of stamps sold; the postal agreements that had been

made with the majority of stamp-issuing countries; and finally, the difficulty experienced by the public in separating a stamp from its neighbour.



As the Government was not in possession of perforating machinery, the Minister of Public Works was obliged to have recourse to a private firm—Messrs. Gouweloos, Rue Brogniez, Brussels, who contracted to perforate the sheets of stamps.

Perforated stamps were first issued officially on April 11, 1863, but perforated copies are found bearing an earlier date than this. Certain banks and other large commercial institutions, where a great number of stamps were used every day, had already made arrangements with the firm mentioned above to perforate stamps for them, which was done for quite a small figure.

It was not until 1867 that the Belgian Government undertook the perforation of their stamps; they acquired a machine for the purpose which perforated six sheets at once (each containing three hundred stamps) by pressure on a single lever.

The 1863 issue consists of stamps similar to those of 1861, but perforated. Exactly the same varieties of shade and paper are found in this issue as in the last, with the exception of that on ribbed paper.

The interesting features of this issue are the various perforations. The stamps perforated by Messrs. Gouweloos may be found with two distinct varieties of perforation, according to the manner in which the sheets were fed into the perforating machine. Exactly the same thing occurred when the stamps were perforated by the machine belonging to the Government.

REFERENCE LIST.

On paper varying slightly in thickness.

(a) Perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$.

- 1 c., yellow-green, deep yellow-green, green, deep green.
- 10 c., grey-brown, deep brown, russet-brown.
- 20 c., pale blue, blue, deep blue.
- 40 c., rose-carmine, carmine-red.

(b) Perf. $12\frac{1}{2} \times 13$.

- 1 c., yellow-green, deep yellow-green, green, deep green.
- 10 c., grey-brown, deep brown, russet-brown.
- 20 c., pale blue, blue, deep blue.
- 40 c., red, rose-carmine, carmine-red.

(c) Perf. $12\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$.

1 c., yellow-green, deep yellow-green, olive-green, deep green.
 10 c., grey-brown, deep brown, russet-brown.
 20 c., pale blue, blue, deep blue.
 40 c., red, rose-carmine, carmine-red.

(d) Perf. 14 $\frac{1}{2}$.

1 c., pale green, yellow-green, pale blue-green.
 10 c., grey-brown, deep brown, russet-brown.
 20 c., pale blue, blue, deep blue.
 40 c., red, carmine-red, carmine.

Variety.

The 1 centime stamp is also known in a pale yellow-green shade, perforated $14\frac{1}{2}$, and printed from a retouched plate. The difference can be seen at a glance, especially in the lower part of the stamp.

(To be continued.)

The Penny Black and its "Cousins"

By PAUL HOWARD

THE good old English penny black of 1840, the first of the race and by no means the least comely, seems to have had some influence on the designs and colour (assuming for a moment that black is a colour) of some other first issues of Con-

dress, yet in each instance the head is unmistakably that of a queen, calm, dignified, and truly regal. Each is a fine stamp.



tinental and other nations. Perhaps it may be taken as some sort of compliment to Great Britain that some other countries adopted a design which more or less closely resembled our own penny black.

Who shall say that the shape of the first issue of France, and the hue of the 20 c., black, of that issue, may not have been the creation of a designer who had the English penny black in mind? And the 6 cuartos, black, of Spain, 1851, bears a still closer



The 10 c., black, of Luxembourg, 1852, bears something of a resemblance to the English black stamp, too, and the varieties of the 1 sgr. which immediately follow strongly bring to mind the variations of the English penny reds. "Brick-red," "deep red," "rose"—these are descriptions that apply equally to some of our penny reds.

And there are others. Black stamps, or black impressions, are among the earliest German States; in Parma and Sardinia they occur, too; the 2 kr. Austria, 1850, and the 3 kr. of 1858 are black stamps. Liberia had a 3 c., black, in 1881, Norway a 1 sk., black, in 1867, Persia in 1875, and 5 reis, black, is a common denomination among early Portugals. Even in South America black stamps occur: there are the 5 c. Nicaragua of 1862, 3 reales Paraguay in 1870, the curious 5 c., 1904, of Bolivar, and the current 6 c. Argentine, while most of the stamps of Brazil were black issues for about the first seven years.

This is by no means an exhaustive list, and it is penned to illustrate the suggestion that possibly the English black stamp may have had some influence on the stamp-issuing world fifty years ago. The stamp is a grand piece of workmanship, quite likely to attract the attention of other stamp-issuing countries.

The United States have had a black stamp here and there down to this day, from the 10 c., black, of 1847, the "Jackson" stamp of 1862, the 30 c., black, of 1879, the



resemblance to the first English stamp. The two designs are clearly akin: each is of about the same shape and size, each has a frame, each has some sort of ornament in the corners, and in each the Queen's head faces in the same direction.

Yet, while all British Queen's heads look towards the left, the Queens of Spain occasionally vary the attitude by taking a right-hand view. There may be also a conspicuous difference in the matter of head-

1 dollar, 1895, 1 dollar Omaha, and so down to the 1 dollar of the present issue. Perhaps this recurrence of a black stamp, in almost each succeeding issue, may be something of a tribute (conscious or unconscious) to the memory of the first English stamp.

Black stamps, of course, are fewer than they were, except in the case of Unpays—and even these have a tendency to break forth into colours. But, for the sake of old times, a black variety in any future issue should not be unwelcome.

Manchester Postage Stamp Exhibition and Philatelic Congress

HULME TOWN HALL, STRETFORD ROAD, MANCHESTER

THURSDAY, FRIDAY, and SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 19, and 20, 1909

Held under the auspices of the MANCHESTER JUNIOR PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Patrons.—The Earl of Derby, C.B., and the Earl of Crawford, K.T.

Vice-Patrons.—Sir Lees Knowles, Bart., W. Dorning Beckton, Esq., Major E. B. Evans, R.A., E. D. Bacon, Esq., M. P. Castle, Esq., J.P., J. A. Tilleard, Esq., and M. J. Gardiner, Esq. (Postmaster of Manchester).

Chairman of Committee.—I. J. Bernstein, Esq. (President, Manchester Junior Philatelic Society).

Executive Committee.—Chairman, I. J. Bernstein. D. A. Berry, A. Conboy, J. J.

Darlow, G. F. H. Gibson, J. S. Higgins, jun., W. Jung, R. Löwenhaupt, W. W. Munn, Jas. Taylor, John H. Taylor, W. H. Woods, and Geo. White. Hon. Exhibition Secretary and Treasurer, J. R. M. Albrecht, F.R.P.S.LOND.

Sub-Committee on Congress.—Chairman, W. Dorning Beckton. G. F. H. Gibson, J. R. M. Albrecht, and I. J. Bernstein. Hon. Congress Secretary, J. J. Darlow.

Exhibits Secretary.—D. A. Berry.

All communications to be addressed—Exhibition Offices, 9 Albert Square, Manchester.

STAMP collecting of to-day is no longer the mere accumulating of stamps, but occupies the serious attention of collectors of all ages and classes, who study not only the stamps themselves, but their manufacture and origin.

It being ten years since an Exhibition of Postage Stamps was held in Manchester, the Committee feel that they are complying with a public demand in organizing this Exhibition with a view of further popularizing the hobby of stamp collecting.

The numerous promises of support which have been received from many eminent collectors will, it is hoped, enable them to make an interesting display of both British, Colonial, and Foreign postage stamps, proofs, forgeries, and reprints, together with other objects of philatelic interest.

The Exhibition area consists of about 7000 square feet, and the display will be made all on the same level in a large and a small hall, both of which are eminently suited for the purpose. They are lofty and well lighted, and there is no top light whereby the stamps might be faded. The display is entirely non-competitive, but a diploma has been designed, suitable for framing, which will be presented to all exhibitors as a memento of the occasion. All stamps will be exhibited under glass, in locked or sealed

frames or cases, night and day watchmen will be employed, and every possible precaution will be taken to secure exhibits from damage or loss. The building is fireproof, and, in addition, has under the same roof a station of the Manchester Fire Brigade.

The "Ross" Ladies' Band has been engaged, and will perform in the main hall throughout each day.

Accommodation has been found for fourteen trade stalls—most of the principal London and provincial dealers will be represented—thus affording for the first time in Manchester an opportunity for collectors and dealers to make personal transactions.

The large hall above the Exhibition will be devoted to the first Philatelic Congress of Great Britain, and to Lantern Lectures on popular and educational philatelic matters.

A large hall has been set aside for a refreshment-room, and the catering will be undertaken by a well-known local firm.

Admission to the Exhibition will be entirely free by ticket, which can be obtained from all stamp dealers, or the Hon. Secretary, J. R. M. Albrecht, Exhibition Offices, 9 Albert Square, Manchester.

The hall is easily accessible by electric car (fare 1d.) from all parts of the city, and all the cars running to the Exhibition will bear announcements to that effect.

The various railway companies have consented to run excursions into Manchester, and arrangements for a reduced tariff for intending visitors have been made with the following hotels :—

Midland Hotel; Grand Hotel, Aytoun Street; The Albion Hotel, Piccadilly; The Deansgate (Temperance) Hotel, Deansgate.

THE PHILATELIC CONGRESS.

This will be the first opportunity afforded in this country to philatelists of all shades and opinions to confer upon many important matters connected with Philately. The most important British Societies have already expressed their willingness and desire to help it forward and take part in it.

Delegates have already been appointed to attend, the result of whose deliberations must undoubtedly be of permanent value to the hobby. Special matters of philatelic importance will be discussed, such as the following :—

- The formation of a national Society or Federation.
- The holding of an Annual Congress.
- The suppression of unnecessary or speculative issues, etc.
- The compilation of a Collector's Catalogue and Guide.

Suggestions of further subjects of interest will be carefully considered, and all philatelists are heartily invited to attend and make the Congress successful and worthy of the traditions of British Philatelic Societies.

Days and times of meetings will be announced later.

Please address all communications and suggestions to J. J. Darlow, Exhibition Offices, 9 Albert Square, Manchester.

COMPETITIONS

Open to all Stamp Collectors under eighteen years of age.

Two First Prizes will be awarded: (1) for the collection displaying the greatest care in arrangement and largest amount of philatelic research; (2) for the best essay on any philatelic subject.

A limited number of other Prizes will be awarded to the competitors next in order of merit, and full details will be sent to intending competitors.

The First Prize will, in each case, consist of two guineas' worth of stamps, album, philatelic literature or outfit. The First Prize winners to select their prizes from any of the dealers having stalls at the Exhibition.

There will be no entrance fee nor other charge, and the competition will be open to any collector of either sex under the age of eighteen years.

The Manchester Junior Philatelic Society will take every care of the albums and col-

lections, but cannot accept any responsibility.

The successful collections will be exhibited in glass cases, and arrangements will be made to publish the successful essay.

Competitors must observe the following rules :—

COLLECTION COMPETITION.

Albums intended for this section must be addressed to Mr. J. R. M. Albrecht, Exhibition Offices, 9 Albert Square, Manchester, *not later than February 1, 1909*, marked "Collection."

2. An addressed cover, with sufficient stamps for return postage and registration, must be enclosed with each.

3. The collection must be the sole property of the competitor, who must, on February 20, 1909, not exceed the age of eighteen years.

4. A written testimony to that effect, signed by parent, guardian, schoolmaster, or other responsible person, must accompany each entry.

NOTES TO COMPETITORS.

The rarity or value of the stamps in collection will have little effect on the decision of the judges, neither will the size or price of the albums; *neatness, care, and condition*, together with the amount of study shown in the arrangement, however, will.

A collection may be either general or specialized: may be of used stamps or unused stamps, or both. There are no restrictions as to size.

ESSAY COMPETITION.

1. Competitors must be under the age of eighteen years on February 1, 1909.

2. All competitions must be addressed in envelope marked "Essay" to Mr. J. R. M. Albrecht, Exhibition Offices, 9 Albert Square, Manchester, *not later than February 1, 1909*.

3. The essay should not exceed 500 words, and may be written on any philatelic subject. It must be written on one side of the paper (foolscap) only.

4. Each essay must bear, on the top of the first page, the name and address of the competitor, and must be accompanied by a note, signed by a responsible person, that it is the entire work of the competitor, unaided by suggestions or corrections.

Any further details will be supplied on inquiry, by J. R. M. Albrecht, Hon. Sec., Exhibition Offices, 9 Albert Square, Manchester.

A VERY HANDSOME PRESENT

Packet No. 69, 2000 varieties. A grand packet, every stamp being different and genuine, and thus forming a choice collection in itself.

£3, post-free and registered.

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.

39 Strand London, W.C.

The Topical Country

By W. WARD

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Venezuela

AT present this Republic looms largely in the public eye, and the doings of its erstwhile President claim a large share of newspaper space. It generally contrives to be in "hot water" with some Power, now America, now England, and lately Holland.

A short time ago, the "Sick Man of South America," President Castro, issued a decree prohibiting trade between the British colony of Trinidad and the United States of Venezuela. The schooner *Lady Kensington*, bound for Trinidad, becoming becalmed in or near Venezuelan waters, was seized by Venezuelan officials and her passengers and crew immediately imprisoned. By the time this appears in cold type it is very likely that some sort of apology will have been demanded from Venezuela, *with remuneration*. We British are thick-skinned, and can stand a good many verbal sneers, but the one thing we are touchy about is our freedom of the seas—be it Americans seizing mails or Russians bombarding fishing warships. The man-in-the-street only knows that Venezuela is a country of South America, and its late President—more autocratic than a king—lived in a house made of steel, is fond of dancing, and has repeatedly placed his nose to his finger at the United States, France, Holland, and Great Britain. The philatelist knows more, generally. Some philatelists know a good deal—and though it is a long time ago, financial sores heal very slowly. There must be a good many living who know that Venezuela once did Philately an honour [*sic*] by giving birth to one Tomasso Coelho—coloured by nature, *stamp collector* by hobby and profession, and a Marathon runner by necessity. Philatelists also know that Venezuela issued two stamps once catalogued at £1 and 10s. respectively, which they were able to purchase later at from ninepence per pair—and which one firm of philanthropic stamp purveyors gave as a free and gratis bonus to those customers who spent sums of twenty shillings sterling and upwards.

Despite all this, the stamps of this so-called Republic are by no means without interest. Neither is President Castro. Is he not the Cromwell, the Napoleon, the Washington of Venezuela? Personally, I rather admire the man for his leadership, if not so much for his humane tactics. At any rate, such hardly comes within the scope of Philately.

An alleged union of fourteen States, Venezuela really has no direct power among her

own type of South American countries. Nevertheless, her rulers of the fifties were not slow to recognize the necessity for postage stamps, which, as we all know, were issued in the last one of that cycle of ten—namely, 1859. Printed from stones, the first issue was by no means of exceptional beauty; but those crude, early stamps possess an interest for collectors. As such, they possess an adaptability for being re-plated. The following year the same design appeared, made, it is said, from a metal plate. From my view of the stamp, I really question whether it is engraved—as the word "engraved" is understood in the printing trade—that is, like our own British early line-engraved. At the same time, it is not so likely that the modern methods of steel impressions from matrix or by stereo could have been used in America. [The issue in question was lithographed, and in the new Catalogue the stamps of 1859 will be described as *coarse impression*, and those of 1860 as *fine impression*.—ED. G.S.W.] The 1861 issue is an adaptation of the first, but with a plain or blank background, and consisting of three values in centavos, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, and the unit.

Up to about this time, the British 6d. and 1s., the United States dollar, Brazilian peso, and French five-francs pieces had had full currency in Venezuela. Indeed, all sorts and kinds of numismatic tokens were in use, but these were eventually made illegal. I might mention here, that right up to 1858 from Bolivar's time, Venezuela had had no really centralized government—all parties squabbling on the least pretext. Had the Monagas régime been overthrown previously to 1858, no doubt Venezuela would have issued postage stamps earlier. At this date the Conservatives under the leadership of Pedro Gual came into power, but soon in the same year a revolution in Caracas brought back old General Paez, who assumed the dictatorship. It was during the Paez dictatorship that the first stamps were issued. In 1861 General Falcon, with Guzman Blanco as his chief supporter, started an insurrection in Coro, and made himself so strong that he was absolute master of the country in a short time, and was in power four years. During his dictatorship the last issue I made mention of—the centavos values—was put on sale.

Nominally, the now twenty States (there having been originally seven, but more offices were required to go round) were a Federal Union, having all "come in," so as to speak,

in 1862. The 1863 "Eagle" issue typifies this movement, for besides that effigy of Republicanism the stamps are inscribed "Federacion." 1866 saw the Arms brought again into use, but this time with the inscription of the full legal name of "The United States of Venezuela."

During Falcon's time the death penalty and religious instruction in schools were abolished. This was the cause of much further trouble, because the earlier Spanish-Papal teachings had too great a hold on the ignorant peasants. State after State broke out into revolution. Each State, or its officers, collected all moneys or taxes on its own account. The leader of the Unitarian Party was eventually elected President in 1868, but Guzman Blanco retook Caracas in 1870 and installed himself as Chief Dictator. All Venezuela was against him, but he suppressed opposition, and his armies beat all who dared to oppose his progress. But it was not until late in 1873 that he settled his enemies and was made Constitutional President. Here with this event we find the current stamps (1866 type of Arms) overprinted "Contraseña" and "Estampilla de Correo." We also find about this time, stamps overprinted by the Dictatorship with a date "27 June, 1870," which, from a history of the Republic, must have owed their origin to the civil war which raged between the years 1870 and 1873, more so as they bear a date which is consistent with that of Blanco's assumption of office at Caracas.

Right through until 1889 Blanco really reigned over Venezuela, which proved a time of prosperity and tranquillity for the country. Blanco was the prototype of Castro; though he took what he wanted—and millions of money were deposited in Paris against a "rainy day"—a large number of public works and fine buildings were erected, which even to-day make Caracas one of the finest cities of South America. Five hundred miles of railroad were constructed during Blanco's presidency. None of Blanco's stamps up to 1882 had possessed any beauty—and like the "Escuelas" stamps already referred to had the overprint "Decree of 27th June, 1870." It was during the year of the first issue of the stamps bearing the head of the great Bolivar that the Venezuelan National Mint struck the first gold coins—the twenty bolivars—of about the same weight, size, and value as the French napoleon. In 1880 this fact was brought into notice by the issue of the stamps in the bolivar currency—subdivided into centimos. But when it was found that the 1879 type would cause confusion, for external postage, with the new values—all being of the same design—a rather better designed stamp was issued for exterior mailage simply inscribed "Venezuela." The overprint on the now

interior issue was left off. A much finer set of stamps, in two series, made its appearance in 1882. The origin of the work is at once apparent from the design and manufacture. But evidently the cost of production was too much, and it was thought better to economize by having them lithographed at home, than by sending the order to New York. The interior stamps bore the word "Escuelas," and the exterior ones "Correos de Venezuela." In 1889 an outbreak occurred, led by Rojas Paul, who assumed the presidency, and a period of anarchy ensued. In 1892 General Crespo drove out Paul. This event is signalized by an overprint on the stamp reading "Resolucion de 10 Octubre 1892." Previously to new issues of regular stamps further overprinting took place. Gibbons' Catalogue gives the overprint as being the coat of arms, but I should not like to swear to it from my stamps, which all look as though they have contracted small-pox.

The United States issued a commemorative set for the Columbus Exhibition of 1893. Of course the Venezuelans must attempt to mislead people that the world-famed Christopher also called at their country. Columbus sighted the Venezuela coast-line on his third voyage, but he never called there.

The first European to land on the Venezuelan coast-line was Alonzo de Ojeda in 1499, but why the event was forgotten in 1899—or at least why no stamps were issued to commemorate the event—was because of the wonderful advent of one Castro—a man hitherto unknown, who started an insurrection against Andrade, who had succeeded Crespo in 1897. So great was his leadership and the following that the Government were defeated, and Castro entered Caracas in triumph and made himself Dictator in September, 1899. Of course here was the occasion for a new surcharge of the stamps.

A fearful and wonderful commemorative issue had been brought out in 1896 to let philatelists remember the unknown deeds of an unknown but femininely named general—one Miranda—probably of pantomime fame. The surcharge upon the 1899 stamps (issued during Andrade's supremacy) embraced the initials of the Minister of the Interior—who, unlike our Home Secretary, does also the work of the national finance in Venezuela. Perhaps Castro did not trust this gentleman, for we find him signing his own stamps the following year. Maybe several of the Federal States about the beginning of the Castro Monarchy (which is the European translation for South American Presidency—the only difference being that one is born with a golden spoor in his mouth, and the other only having

a strong jaw) were altogether not nicely inclined towards him, so in order to some way win their admiration for himself, he allowed them to conduct their own postal affairs. They did! But why they should be catalogued is far beyond my powers to explain.

There might have been many reasons for the State of Guiana to have issued the round handstamp provisional during the trouble with Great Britain over the Guiana boundary, which was eventually settled by arbitration, and which nearly caused a rupture between us and the United States. Of course the arbitration came after the Venezuelan navy was sent to "kingdom come" by the joint fleet of Great Britain, Germany, and Italy. But the other plasters! Some Venezuelan official had evidently got to know that British Guiana had issued stamps with cuts of ships on, and which were now worth big sums, and thought if these States that were in the British trouble did the same, they might be able to get enough money to build a new navy. Of course, as the dispute was between the Venezuelan and British Guiana's boundary,

the State of Guiana should have the most money—hence the larger number of stamps issued.

The Venezuelan peasant is, taken generally, lazy; as long as he gets enough money to purchase cigarettes and votive candles to burn to his favourite saint, he is contented, except of course when something irritates him and he feels like having a "scrap." He is satisfied with less than 2s. per diem, and will keep a tumbledown hut, housing upwards of a dozen of his issue, upon that large sum. Often when I go into our English post offices, I wish for the moment I was President Castro. Some little time ago a post office clerk failed to respond quickly enough to the liking of a lady of President Castro's Court. He was hauled off to prison for five days, without any reason for so doing. Having such a knowledge of Castro, one wonders why the 1905 issue is the only one bearing his illustrious features; but perhaps, despite his iron residence, it would not do, for sake of home peace, to usurp Bolivar's.

Who knows but what British Guiana may grow into a larger colony?

Foreign Notes

By FRANK PHILLIPS

A new "50 c." for Canada

A CORRESPONDENT in Canada states that the old 50 cent "Jubilee" stamp, issued in 1897, is at last exhausted, and that, according to the Chief Postmaster, a new 50 c. has been prepared, exactly similar in size and design to the current permanent set, showing a portrait of the King. The colour of the new stamp was not known to my correspondent, but he says it is expected to be *deep blue*. In any event, we shall hear soon, as the issue was expected quite early in December, so it will probably have taken place before these lines appear.

The Sale of Varieties by Post Office Clerks

THE question as to whether the employés in a post office are allowed to sell any varieties or errors they may find amongst ordinary stamps has now been definitely settled, in France at any rate.

Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste copies the following information from the monthly circular of French Postal Administration:—

"The clerks and employés of the Post Office are sometimes requested by stamp dealers and collectors to sell to them at an enhanced price any stamps that may be of faulty manufacture.

"Post Office employés are forbidden to accede to such requests.

"It is true that defective stamps occasionally pass the checking clerks, the most frequent defects being lack of gum or perforation, an abnormal perforation, an abnormal print.

"Should the departmental distributing officers discover any defective stamps, they should return them to the Head Accountant's Office.

"On the other hand, post office counter clerks are supposed to make certain that all stamps they sell are perfect in every respect.

"In every case all defective or imperfect stamps must be withdrawn from sale as soon as discovered, and dealt with according to paragraph 153 of the General Regulations."

Automatic Stamp-vending Machine

THE sale of postage stamps by automatic machines has been a problem which has offered more difficulties than one would believe for very many years past. The postal authorities of all countries are naturally very interested in any means of distributing stamps to the public in a simpler and cheaper way than by sale over the counter. Numberless automatic machines have been installed on trial, but have proved unsatisfactory owing to the fact that in all machines the user was obliged to help them to perform their work (e.g. pull a handle, etc.). It followed that the part of the machine operated by the user was very liable to get out of order if improperly used.

A few months ago two engineers, Messrs. Abel and Oehring, succeeded in overcoming this defect: the same gentlemen had already made another pattern of an automatic stamp-vending machine in 1905. Their new machine requires absolutely no co-operation

of the user to make it do its work. The apparatus is being marketed by a syndicate, under the name of "Internationale Abel-schen - Briefmarken - Automaten - Vertriebs-gesellschaft," of Berlin, and works simply by dropping the particular coin for which the machine is made into a slot.

Bad money is delivered back by the machine, as also are pieces of other than the proper value. Should several coins be put in at once, the machine operates as though one coin only had been used; it supplies the stamp desired and returns the rest of the coins. As soon as the supply of stamps (500 or 1000) is exhausted, a bell is rung automatically in the nearest post office.

The German postal authorities have had three of these machines working in each of thirty-five post offices for some time, and up to April 1, 1908, no less than 15,300,000 stamps had been sold by them.

It speaks well for the machines that the loss due to bad money and other causes is only one in 20,000, while the average loss when stamps are sold over the counter is one in 1250.

It is stated that the Abel machines are to be installed in all German post offices, and that many of the machines have been supplied on trial to the British and French Governments.—*Philatelisten-Zeitung*.

"Reissue of French Zanzibar"

REFERRING to my notes under the above heading which appeared in *G.S.W.* of Nov. 14, and which were based on information contained in *Le Postillon*, Messrs. Th. Champion et Cie, of Paris, write as follows:—

"DEAR SIR,—We read in *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* that from information contained in a French paper, the 1904 issue of Zanzibar is to be reissued. We can safely advance that this information is nothing but a hoax, and you may be sure that no such issue is to take place, the information we refer to being quite groundless."

Now who is right? I think I would plump for the hoax, *mais on ne sait jamais!*

Swedish "Tretio Ore" Error

THE *Svensk Filatelistisk Tidskrift* has already (1903, page 147, and 1907, page 179) described two distinctly different forgeries of the rare error of the 1872-76 issue, i.e. "TRETIO" for "TJUGO," and figures "20," which is listed at about £18 (used) in the various catalogues, and a third forgery is described in the second volume of Krötsches' handbook.

A fourth forgery has been found by Mr. Hilmer Djurling in a selection of stamps sent on approval by a London firm of stamp dealers (*not S. G. Ltd.*). To all appearances the forgery was sent as an original in all good faith (which shows how necessary it is to buy one's stamps only from firms in whose

employ are the finest experts), and it was believed to have been taken from an old collection.

Luckily, the forgery is easily distinguishable from originals, the following table showing the chief points of difference:—

Original.	Forgery.
Size.— $24\frac{1}{2} \times 22$ mm.	Size.— 23×22 mm. (i.e. $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm. too short).
Medium, white, smooth paper, <i>not shiny</i> .	Figures "20" too small and too thin. Slightly shiny paper, a little too thick, and rather greyish in colour.
Perf. gauges 13; rather sharp teeth.	Perf. gauges 12; teeth short and very blunt. The postmark is quite fantastic, a similar one never having ex- isted on the original.

Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung.

"Specimen" Stamps

A VERY curious use of the word "Specimen" is referred to by *Der Deutsche Philatelist*, viz. being found printed in English on German Colonial stamps of the Ship type. The stamps of Cameroons, Caroline Islands, Marianne Islands, German New Guinea, German South-West Africa, and German Morocco have been seen overprinted thus, but it is probable that stamps of the remaining German colonies have been overprinted in the same way.

Now for the explanation of an English overprint on a German stamp, as given by our contemporary on the authority of one of the best-known collectors in Germany.

Between 800 and 1000 copies of every newly issued stamp have to be forwarded to the office of the International Postal Union in Bern, whence the stamps are distributed amongst the various postal administrations.

Naturally enough, Great Britain receives the lion's share on account of the enormous number of British Colonial Post Offices. If we assume that London requires four copies of each stamp, we are not far wrong in putting the total requirements for colonies, etc., at one hundred times as many. Multiply this figure by 13, the number of values, and again by 13, the number of different German colonies, we get $4 \times 100 \times 13 \times 13 = 67,600$ stamps of two different sizes.

Questions asked in the Reichstag have not only shown that remainders of German stamps in the possession of the German Postal Museum have been cancelled, but also that all German stamps sent from Bern to Great Britain are overprinted "Specimen" in English. It is probable that the stamps are so overprinted from type in Bern, as if the work were done by the Imperial Printing Office, the German words "Muster" or "Probe" would probably be used.

New Issues and Discoveries

By FRANK PHILLIPS

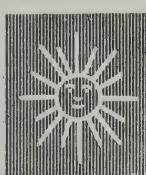
I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Argentine Republic.—We have been shown a fourth value of the new San Martin type, a 12c., dull orange, which was issued on December 1, 1908. The perforation, watermark, etc., are as usual.



72



67

DEC. 1, 1908. Type 72. Wmk. Type 67. Perf. 13, 13½. 187½ c., dull orange.

Austria.—The four Newspaper stamps of the new design, showing the head of Mercury, were chronicled in our issue of March 14, 1908, on a medium, chalk-surfaced paper.

We now learn from *Der Deutsche Philatelist* (20.12.08) that the 2 heller, *deep blue*, has been issued on a very thin, unsurfaced paper. As we have not yet seen this variety, we hardly know if it is of sufficient importance to warrant its inclusion in our Catalogue.

British Solomon Islands Protectorate.—We have received information that seven stamps mentioned in our issue of October 17, 1908, were received at Tulagi on October 26, and were first issued on November 1, 1908. The stamps were printed by Messrs. De La Rue by the line-engraved process, probably from steel plates, the design being practically that of the last issue, although the stamps are reduced to the usual dimensions.

The stamps are printed in sheets of sixty, composed of six horizontal rows of ten stamps each, and the sheets are unnumbered.

We have authoritative information that the number of stamps received at Tulagi was as follows:—

1720 sheets of ½d.	= 103,200 stamps.
1749 , ,	1d. = 104,940 , ,
1697 , ,	2d. = 101,820 , ,
1726 , ,	2½d. = 103,560 , ,
506 , ,	5d. = 30,360 , ,
520 , ,	6d. = 31,200 , ,
508 , ,	1s. = 30,480 , ,



2

Nov. 1, 1908. Type 2. Line-engraved. Wmk. Multiple Crown CA, Type w. 8 (sideways). Perf. 14.

10	½d., green, O.
11	1d., carmine, O.
12	2d., greyish slate, O.
13	2½d., ultramarine, O.
14	5d., olive, O.
15	6d., purple, O.
16	1s., black on green, O.

Cape of Good Hope.—We have noticed that the shade of the current 1d. has been getting deeper lately. Early plate 3's were quite a *light rose*, but later 3's were deeper, and now plate 4 is exceedingly deep. We accordingly chronicle:—



18

1908. Type 18. Wmk. Cabled Anchor, Type II. Perf. 14. 9½d., deep rose.

Gold Coast.—Mr. W. T. Wilson has shown us a properly issued copy of the new monocoloured 1d., to a specimen copy of which we referred in our issue of June 27, 1908. The stamp seems to have been some time making its appearance.



8

Nov., 1908. Type 8. Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Perf. 14. 65½d., carmine, O.

Siam.—We have received five values of the 1906 issue, bearing an overprint similar to the illustration given below; the 5 atts stamp is surcharged "4 atts" in addition to the Jubilee overprint, and was chronicled (surcharged) in our issue of November 21, 1908, as No. 163.

The overprint appears to celebrate the fortieth year of the reign of the present King of Siam, Chulalongkorn I, who succeeded to the throne on October 1, 1868.



50

54

4

57

Nov. 1 (?), 1908. Jubilee issue. Type 50, centre in first colour, overprinted with Type 57, in black (on 8 atts in red):

- 167 1 a., green and yellow.
- 168 3 a., green.
- 169 4 a. on 5 a., rose and carmine (Type 54).
- 170 8 a., olive-bistre and dull black.
- 171 18 a., pale and deep red-brown.

Switzerland.—From information given in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (19.12.08), it would appear that the list of the new stamps given in our issue of November 21, 1908, is not quite accurate.

It will be remembered that the 40 c. was issued before the other values, and apparently it differed slightly from the stamps issued subsequently. The figure of Helvetia is seated on a rock, sword in hand; on this rock, just below the hand grasping the sword, the inscription "C. L'Eplateunier" may be distinguished in tiny letters on the first 40 c. In the remaining values the inscription was altered to "C. L" only: we said "first 40 c." above, because a second 40 c. has just been issued also inscribed "C. L" to bring it into line with the other values.

Correspondence

The Proposed Philatelic Club

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

SIR,—As announced, a meeting of representatives of a number of leading Societies and Clubs was held at Essex Hall, Essex Street, Strand, on Thursday, December 10, when there were present J. C. Sidebotham (in the chair), F. Reichenheim, W. Cool, J. E. Joselin, A. B. Kay, T. Widdowson, D. H. Jackson, Cyril J. Phillips, W. S. King, A. Selinger, P. L. Pemberton, F. F. Lamb, P. P. Brown, J. L. Eastwood, A. C. Constantinides, and T. H. Hinton.

A brief résumé of the previous meetings having been given, after an animated discussion it was proposed by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mr. Joselin, and carried with two dissentients "That it is desirable to form a Philatelic Club in London under the auspices of existing Societies

Mr. W. T. Wilson sends two stamps to add to our list, one being a 2 c. of new design. It is somewhat similar to the last 2 c., in that the colour is nearly the same, and the central figure is again William Tell holding an immense crossbow and a transfixated apple nearly as big as his head, but the figure "2" appears in majestic isolation to the left of the cross-bow. This amended design is more hideous than its predecessor.

Mr. Wilson also sends a new 25 c. of the current design of the higher values, but it differs from its fellows in being printed in one colour the figure of Helvetia, etc., showing in white.



16



17

1908. Figures of value, figure of Helvetia, and frame line in first colour (on 25 c. in white). Granite paper. Wmk. Cross, Type 13. Perf. 11½, 12.

Type 16. Inscribed "C. L'Eplateunier," on rock.
40 c., orange-yellow and plum.

Type 17. Inscribed "C. L," on rock.
20 c., yellow and red.
25 c., deep blue.
30 c., pale green and golden brown.
35 c., yellow and emerald.
40 c., yellow and bluish purple.
50 c., yellow and deep green.
70 c., ochre and chocolate.
1 fr., pale green and deep claret.
3 fr., chrome-yellow and yellow-bistre.



18

DEC., 1908. Type 18. Granite paper. Wmk. Cross, Type 13. Perf. 11½, 12.
2 (c.), bistre.

and Clubs," and the following provisional Committee was appointed to formulate a scheme and report to a future meeting: Messrs. W. Coo (Herts), W. H. Jackson (City of London), J. E. Joselin (Birmingham), A. B. Kay (Fiscal), P. L. Pemberton (I.P.U.), Cyril J. Phillips (King Edward VII), A. Selinger (Juniors), T. Widdowson (Leicester), and T. H. Hinton (Hon. Sec.). This Committee will meet at 6 High Holborn, on Thursday, January 7, at 6.45 p.m. Meanwhile, any suggestions from members of other Societies who were invited to the above meeting but were unable to be present, will be laid before the Committee, and carefully considered by them, if forwarded to

T. H. HINTON.

26 CROMFORD ROAD, EAST PUTNEY,
LONDON, S.W.

JAN. 16, 1909

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Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

Gibraltar



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GIBRALTAR is an isolated rock on the south-west coast of Spain, lying at the entrance to the Mediterranean Sea, and commanding the famous strait of the same name. It is three miles in length and three-quarters of a mile broad, and rises to a height of 1,439 feet above the sea level; a low sandy isthmus connects it with the Spanish province of Andalusia.

"The Rock," as Gibraltar is familiarly called, is a British Crown Colony. The Governor, who is also commander-in-chief,

exercises all the functions of government and legislation.

The Strait of Gibraltar has been known from time immemorial, the rock itself on one side and Mount Abyla on the African coast being named the Pillars of Hercules by the early Greeks, and supposed by them to constitute the western boundaries of the world.

During the Moorish invasion of Spain in A.D. 711 Gibraltar was seized and fortified by a Saracen general named Tarif-ebn-

Zarca. It is from him that Gibraltar derives its name; which is a contraction of Gebel-el-Tarif (the Hill of Tarif).

In the fifteenth century it was incorporated with the Spanish kingdom of Granada. It passed by conquest to Great Britain in 1704, and has since that period remained uninterruptedly a British possession, though not without several desperate efforts for its recovery. The siege from 1779 to 1782 is one of the most famous in history.

Gibraltar is without doubt the most notable fortress in the world, and is an important naval station, being the principal base for the British Atlantic fleet. A garrison of about 6500 is maintained.

Apart from its strategical importance, the place is used extensively as a port of call and coaling station by shipping, and is the entrepôt of the trade between England and North Africa. There is a civil population of about 20,000.

There are no industries or productions, the revenue (£92,000 in 1906) being derived from port dues, rent of Crown estate, excise, post office, etc. The Home Government contributes nothing towards the upkeep of the civil establishment, administration of justice, public works, etc., which cost £70,000 in 1906. During the same year the military expenditure of the Imperial Government amounted to close on £400,000.

Gibraltar entered the Postal Union February 22, 1888. There is postal communication daily with England. In 1906 the Post Office dealt with three and a quarter million letters and post cards and nearly a million newspaper and book packets.

The present currency is the same as that of Great Britain. It was formerly on the basis of the Spanish money, but was changed in 1898. Spanish coins, however, are still the most in use in the colony.

Philatelic History

This has received a considerable amount of attention in the philatelic press during the last six months, but the stamps of Gibraltar are quite straightforward and present little difficulty to the collector either on the score of Philately or finance. For these reasons, perhaps, the country has always been a favourite with general collectors. Prices have been fairly steady, and beyond the one rarity, the 1889 error "value omitted," there are no expensive stamps.

A British Post Office was established in September, 1857, and remained open until the local system was inaugurated in January, 1886. Until the latter date British stamps were used and can be distinguished by the obliterations, viz. "G," "A 26," or dated postmark. Full particulars of these and of the varieties of British stamps so used will

be found in the article on "British Stamps Used Abroad" (see *G.S.W.*, Nos. 145 and 146). A selection of such stamps makes an interesting commencement for a moderate or advanced specialist's collection.

The first distinctive stamps were issued on January 1, 1886, and were really provisionals. No doubt by arrangement with the Bermuda authorities, Messrs. De La Rue and Co., of London, made a special printing of stamps from the plates of the current stamps of Bermuda, and overprinted them with the word "GIBRALTAR" in block capitals near the top. No information seems to be available as to the quantities of these provisionals or the reason for the unusual nature of their manufacture. True, a similar practice had been followed for the first Montserrat stamps, but a less complicated arrangement would have been to overprint British stamps as in the case of Cyprus.

All the stamps were on Crown CA paper.

It will be noticed that a special printing was made, since the ½d., 2d., and 1s. stamps in the same colours were not issued in Bermuda till 1893, whilst the 4d. on CA paper did not appear there till 1904 and the 6d. is still on CC paper.



Jan. 1, 1886. *Bermuda stamps overprinted "GIBRALTAR."* Wmk. Crown CA. Perf. 14.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d., dull green	0 6	0 9
1d., rose-red	2 6	2 0
2d., violet-brown	12 6	12 6
2½d., ultramarine	10 0	2 0
4d., orange-red	15 0	15 0
6d., deep lilac	24 0	
1s., yellow-brown	55 0	

In December, 1886, the provisionals were replaced by a definite issue, inscribed "GIBRALTAR," printed by De La Rue and Co. on Crown CA paper. There were seven values as before, closely approximating as to colour, but only four types, the 2d., 4d., 6d., and 1s. being of similar design. The values are expressed in English currency.



Dec., 1886. *Perf. 14.*

	Unused.	Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	
½d., dull green .	. 0 3	0 6	
1d., rose .	. 0 4	0 4	
2d., brown-lilac .	. 2 0	2 0	
2½d., ultramarine .	. 2 0	0 6	
4d., orange-brown .	. 17 6		
6d., lilac .	. 25 0		
1s., bistre .	. 30 0		

After the above stamps had been in use for about two and a half years it was decided to express the value in Spanish currency, as the latter was really the basis of local trade, and a large proportion of the population being familiar with the decimal coinage only.

With this end in view a fresh lot of stamps was ordered, but before these were delivered a provisional issue was put on sale. The stamps of 1886 were overprinted in black with their approximate value in Spanish currency. The 2d. and 2½d. were both overprinted 25 c., but as there was no call for a 20 c., this was done to use up the

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Stock Books, and are, therefore, the Prices at which Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., will have pleasure in supplying any of the stamps that may be needed by any of our readers.

stock of 2d. stamps. The 1s. was overprinted 75 c., as there was a demand for this value, but it will be noticed that when the new stamps arrived the 75 c. was in a new colour, and the nearest value to 1s., viz. 1 peseta, was in the original colour. The nominal value of the Spanish currency was 100 centimos = 1 peseta = 10d.

In the overprints some minor varieties occur, for particulars of which the Catalogue can be consulted, but except for these the provisionals are straightforward and cheap. The quantities overprinted are given in brackets.



July, 1889. Stamps of the previous issue surcharged in black.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 c. on ½d., green (57,120)	. 1 0	2 0
10 c. on 1d., rose (100,320)	. 0 9	1 0
25 c. on 2d., brown-lilac (54,720)	—	2 6
25 c. on 2½d., ultramarine (240,720)	1 6	1 0
40 c. on 4d., orange-brown (14,520)	2 0	
50 c. on 6d., lilac (14,760)	. 2 0	
75 c. on 1s., bistre (12,400)	. 4 0	

Parodied Postage Stamps

By PERCY C. BISHOP

In certain of the continental philatelic journals one finds an occasional burst of fun—a welcome oasis of humour in an arid desert of dry scientific fact. The caricaturist of postage stamps is quite a continental institution ; here he is practically unknown. A glance through the files of the French and German stamp journals, more especially

Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste and the *Philatelisten-Zeitung*, brings to light many droll examples of parodied postage stamps.

The recent issue of low-value Swiss stamps, showing a picture of the son of William Tell, appears to have vastly tickled the artists' genius for pictorial burlesque. In one parody—perhaps the best of the many that have appeared—the enormous crossbow of William Tell *père* is deftly transformed into an umbrella for his son ; a basket of apples is placed at the boy's side, and lo ! the youthful hero of a famous Swiss fable has become a Parisian apple-boy in the rainy season. This, surely, is burlesque in its happiest vein.

In another good parody William Tell *fils* grasps a horizontal bar in lieu of his parent's crossbow, and is evidently preparing to perform that pleasing gymnastic feat known among schoolboys as the "muscle grinder."



Parodies of the 5 centimes stamps of Switzerland.

The stamps of the "middle values" of the same Swiss series have also been parodied, but not so cleverly.



Parody of the 10 centimes stamp of Switzerland.

The best that the artist can do is to make Helvetia point with arrogant pride to the cross upon her breast. Clearly he missed an opportunity here: the patroness of the Switzers should have been turned into a Red Cross nurse with a portable ambulance in place of a sword!

Only one instance do I recall of the actual issue of a parodied postage stamp—namely, the correspondence-label produced by the leaders of the "Féministe," or "Suffragette," movement in Paris. This, although droll in



The French Suffragettes' effort.

effect, was issued with no humorous intention, but as a serious protest against the "Droits de l'Homme" ("Rights of Man") issue of French stamps of 1900. As a counterblast the Parisian suffragettes supplied their stamp—a singularly crude and ugly label, as my reproduction shows—with the motto, "Droits de la Femme!" The Paris correspondent of a London newspaper thus wrote of the "Féministe" stamp on February 24, 1901:

"The women suffragists have adopted a curious means of propaganda. It is a 'féministe' stamp. It is not legal, of course, and must be accompanied on a letter by the ordinary fifteen centimes stamp. It is slightly larger than the postal variety. In place of the familiar inscription, 'Droits de l'homme,' appears a tablet with the words, 'Droits de la femme.' Mme. Auclert, president of the Suffrage Society, informs me that, since the stamps were issued in

the middle of October last, 400,000 have been sold. The price is eminently reasonable—7½d. a hundred. Applications arrive from all parts of the world for the stamps. Mme. Auclert is much obliged to the Post Office, which cancels these stamps with its own marks, thus adding to their value (the president thinks) from a collector's point of view. London has taken 10,000 of the stamps just recently."

Many, by the way, may think it very odd that the correspondence-label forms no part of the British female suffragist propaganda, but since the recent edict of the Postmaster-General forbidding the use of all such unofficial "stamps," the thing has become an impossibility. I believe it to be the fact that the suffragist leaders were seriously considering the issue of a special stamp in the colours of the Women's Social and Political Union when the Postmaster-General's pronouncement put an effectual veto upon that part of their programme.



A burlesque of the first type of the "Semeuse" issue.



Mademoiselle la Semeuse gets tired!

Perhaps no stamps in the world have been more extensively parodied than those of the "Semeuse" issue of France. I select

wo excellent drawings for reproduction. The first, a parody of the earlier "Semeuse" prints, shows us a slatternly and spectacled Parisian drab in place of the supple and graceful sower of Roty's design. The woman is carrying home a can of milk and other purchases, and scatters letters as she goes—presumably her mistress's correspondence entrusted to her for the post! The second parody shrewdly hits off the repeated revising and retouching to which the "Semeuse" stamps have been subjected. Evidently Mademoiselle la Semeuse has grown heartily weary of the whole business, for the artist depicts her gathering up her raperies and stepping right out of the stamp!

Of course, the caricaturist has had his dig at Morocco also. With a background reminiscent of certain of the Moroccan "Courier" issues, the artist depicts the German eagle and the Gallic cock fiercely contending for the spoils, while the Moorish Sultan (or one of him!) bewails the threatened dissolution of his unhappy country. There have been excellent carica-

tures also of the "Mailyphist" stamps of Germany, and those of various of the Western Republics; but it is noticeable that certain issues, such as the Don Quixote



An Idea for Morocco.

stamps of Spain, are invariably avoided even by the most inveterate parodists, presumably on the ground that they are already too funny to be improved upon!

Undesirable Philatelic Advertisements

By BERTIE MORLEY

Paper read before the BRIGHTON BRANCH of the JUNIOR PHILATELIC SOCIETY

THE subject of this paper concerns more directly the numerous body of stamp collectors who have to rely to a great extent for their stamps on purchasing them from persons personally unknown to them, through the medium of advertisements inserted in the columns of philatelic and other papers. But I venture to suggest that the subject is also of sufficient general interest to justify the reading of this paper at this meeting.

Perhaps I may quote an incident that came to the writer's notice, which may serve to make clear the object aimed at in this paper, which is to demonstrate the necessity of some steps being taken by the proprietors of persons responsible for the management of papers, philatelic or otherwise, to ascertain whether the offers advertised in their columns are made in perfect good faith by the persons inserting them, or whether the advertiser may not have some ulterior motive in inserting an attractively worded advertisement which, on the face of it, appears to be an extraordinary bargain.

Some months ago an advertisement appeared in a daily paper offering a book of mint colonial stamps catalogued at some-

thing over £1 at the great sacrifice of a few shillings (I do not remember the exact figure), and also offering to send the book on approval. The advertiser did not state his name, but simply gave initials and an address in London.

The advertisement was replied to the same morning as it appeared, asking for the book to be sent for the inquirer's inspection, and an undertaking was given to return it within twenty-four hours should the inquirer not wish to purchase. An answer was received by return of post from the advertiser regretting that he had already received a postal order for the book from another source, but he had much pleasure in enclosing for inspection a selection of stamps on approval. The selection consisted of stamps of the most ordinary kind, which in some instances were priced at from twice to three times catalogue price, although the sender stated that they were priced at absolutely "give-away" prices. I need hardly add that no business resulted.

The advertiser in question may have had a book of the description advertised for sale, or he may not have had such a book for sale, but, as the same advertisement appeared

again on subsequent days, the inference drawn by the writer is that the advertiser never had such a book of mint stamps to sell, or, if he had such a book, that he was not prepared to sell it at the price asked, and that the advertisement was merely a device on the advertiser's part to get applications for the "bargain" and thus get into touch with collectors for the purpose of submitting to them stamps on approval in the hope of finding some one foolish enough to purchase stamps at about twice or three times their catalogue price.

It is to be regretted that the advertiser referred to is now advertising his "bargains" in some of the leading philatelic journals, and his offers appear to grow more wonderful week by week.

No doubt many of you have observed in the issue of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* of November 14 that a correspondent, who is described as "J. S., Brixton," complains of an experience somewhat on the same lines as that already related, except that he does not say whether the person whose advertisement he answered sent him a selection on approval. But in case any one present has not read his letter, I should like to quote that part of it which relates to the question which forms the subject of this paper.

The letter runs as follows:—

"In the last issue of the *Fortnightly* certain stamps were offered for sale by a person, whom we will call X., at a ridiculously low price. A friend of mine received his copy of the *S.C.F.* by first post on the Saturday morning, and by 9 a.m. he had posted a cheque on to the advertiser for three sets of the stamps as advertised. He received a reply stating that he (the advertiser) did not like to return a cheque, but unfortunately he only had one set of the stamps in question and that had been snapped up immediately (the man who got the set must have lived next door to him I should think).

"Now, there is no doubt in my mind that this gentleman never really had the stamps to sell at the price mentioned, as they would readily fetch double at any auction, and I am asking you whether nothing can be done by you to keep such advertisements out of your paper."

As to the two remaining questions raised by "J. S." I do not wish to express any opinion, as they are rather outside the subject on which I am writing, but I should like to call your attention to the editor's criticism in reply to this letter, which is as follows:—

"Well, there is much to be said for the attitude taken up by our correspondent, assuming that the real facts are exactly as he believes them to be. To put up for sale any article that 'has a string to it,' as an American would express it, is not fair business, no matter what the motive may be.

"But what would 'J. S.' have us do? Must

we frame a new rule for our advertisers—'No stamps to be sold at less than bed-rock market value,' or something to that effect? Obviously that would be absurd, for vast numbers of really extraordinary bargains are offered in the advertising columns of the *Fortnightly* in the course of the year. Clearly, then, we can do nothing in the matter. Even if an advertiser takes space to offer a Cape woodblock error in superb state for sixpence, we cannot say him nay if he be a person of good repute. We might entertain a doubt as to his sanity, but his advertisement would have to go in.

"It is only fair to our advertisers generally to add that this complaint is unique in our experience."

In the writer's opinion the question raised by "J. S." is worthy of much more serious consideration than has been accorded to it in the columns of the *S.C.F.* It appears to me that the editor's criticism is merely a humorous attempt to evade the real point at issue, which is not that a person should be bound by a rule not to sell stamps at less than market value, but that steps should be taken to prevent persons advertising an article which they cannot supply, or if they could supply the article, then that they have no intention of supplying it at the price they offer, but merely insert a flowery advertisement in the hope of attracting a greater number of replies than they would receive if they merely inserted the ordinary straightforward business advertisement, and then submit to inquirers an entirely different article from that which they expected to receive.

The editor says, "Clearly, then, we can do nothing in the matter." I venture to suggest that much could be done in the matter. The practice adopted by a well-known paper appears to me to be an excellent one, namely, the institution of a Reference List, upon which the names of advertisers who are known to be thoroughly trustworthy are placed, and whose advertisements in that paper are marked with an asterisk, thus showing the reader at a glance the persons who are known by the proprietors to be trustworthy, thereby enabling the reader to feel perfectly assured of the good faith of the advertiser whose advertisement he proposes to answer. As to the advertisements inserted by persons unknown, any advertisement suspected to be of a misleading nature could easily be tested by a member of the staff of the paper answering it from his private address and noting the replies received, and if the replies were not considered satisfactory the advertiser could be warned that his practice was objectionable, and if he failed to mend his ways he should be publicly advertised as being debarred from the use of the advertising columns of that paper, which, I believe, is the course adopted by the before-mentioned paper.

The insertion of such misleading adver-

cisements not only does not help to increase the reputation of the paper inserting them, but it may cause damage to the honest and straightforward advertiser who has a real bargain to sell, and whose advertisement consequently does not receive the attention it might otherwise receive owing to readers' experiences of the kind referred to, and who, whenever they see 'a bargain advertised, merely think to themselves, "Another advertising dodge," and pass it by without further notice. Thus the genuine advertiser of a bargain is seriously handicapped by the existence of these misleading advertisements in the same columns as his own, and in common fairness to the genuine advertiser some steps should, I think, be taken by the philatelic journals to endeavour to weed out these undesirable advertisements.

The editor of the *S.C.F.* also adds : "This complaint is unique in our experience." I have seen the question raised before, but do not remember where, and I have no doubt that there are many stamp collectors who have had similar experiences of the kind above referred to, and who have not troubled to make the matter public, and I think that the subject is worthy of greater attention on the part of the philatelic press

than has been given to it, and any reforms instituted on the lines above suggested would doubtless prove of great benefit both to advertisers and readers alike.

In conclusion, I would wish to say that this paper is not intended to cast any sort of reflection on any of the leading stamp dealers, whose names are household words in Philately, who have a reputation to maintain, and who are, of course, entirely beyond suspicion, as they, by their liberal advertisements, contribute largely towards the financial success of the philatelic journals, nor is it aimed against any individual person or firm, but it has been written with the object of demonstrating, to the best of the writer's ability, the undesirability of the class of advertisements which I have referred to, which are inserted by obscure persons with no reputations to lose, and also to demonstrate that there is a real necessity for some steps being taken by the philatelic journals to protect their readers from these misleading advertisements ; and it is also written in the hope that the questions raised and the reading of this paper may be of some interest to the members of this Society present at this meeting.

The 1908 Jubilee Issue of Canada

Translated from the *Illustriertes Briefmarken-Journal* by FRANK PHILLIPS

WE were only able to refer very shortly in No. 16 [of the *I. B.-J.*] to the eight beautiful Canadian stamps issued in commemoration of the foundation of Quebec, which took place three hundred years ago last summer, but now we have more time to treat of this fine issue in a more leisurely fashion. We promised our readers to discuss the designs of the stamps in a later number, and so we now proceed to do so.

We will leave our rather lengthy introductory remarks and proceed to the stamps themselves. First, it must be remarked that the French people are extremely pleased at the thoughtfulness displayed by the English in choosing for designs of these stamps no less than three Frenchmen to one solitary Englishman, General Wolfe ; of course, always excepting portraits of the members of the English Royal Family, which we should naturally expect to see on such a set of commemoratives. With the latter we shall not deal in this article. All inscriptions are in the French language [or rather a corruption of it].—ED. G.S.W.]

"England has recognized as a nation that in honouring France in the persons of three of her most famous sons she honours herself; that is the word of praise we wish to

extend to our friends across the Channel," so says our French contemporary *La Revue de la Fédération Philatélique de France*.

And now to a short history of the lives of the men depicted on these stamps.

In the year 1533 Jacques Cartier was empowered by Philipp Cabot, "the Admiral of France," to fit out ships "to explore new territories, to gain them, by robbery or otherwise, for France, and at the same time to endeavour to find a north-west passage to Cathay." As long before as 1506 the Florentine explorer, Giovanni Verazzani, had seized the territories of North America lying to the north of the St. Lawrence River in the name of the King of France, but the seizure had never been enforced, and remained a seizure only in name.



On this, his first voyage, Cartier discovered Newfoundland, and, sailing on, anchored off

the northerly coast of the Gaspé Peninsula, by which the River St. Lawrence sweeps into the gulf of the same name. The season was very late, however, and bad weather was to be expected, so Cartier was obliged to set sail for France without delay. He took with him to France two sons of an Indian chief, and they caused great excitement in Paris.

King Francis I was so pleased with this exploit that on October 31, 1534, he nominated Captain Jacques Cartier to be "Royal Pilot" (*Pilote Royale*), and had three more ships prepared for him to make a second voyage to Newfoundland. Preparations for the departure were hurried on at St. Malo, Cartier's birthplace, and at the beginning of May all was ready for the departure.

Three ships took part in the voyage, viz. *La Grande Hermione*, *La Petite Hermione*, and *La Hermionette*. The first two were vessels rated at only 120 and 80 tons respectively, and the last was a galleon of 40 tons. On the after part of the first two vessels there were no less than three decks as superstructure, while forward there was only one deck. They were provided with the full naval armament of the sixteenth century: on the gunwale were mounted small cannon, and also a battery of mortars or similar weapons.

The galleon was a long, slender ship of extremely low freeboard, rakish rigged as a



single-master, both sails and oars being used as a means of propulsion; two small cannon were mounted forward, and a round dozen arquebuses were also carried. The total company and passengers of the three ships were only 110 all told.

On the morning of May 19, 1535, the little flotilla set forth on its long voyage of exploration after having saluted the town with every gun on board.

On September 14 of the same year Cartier sighted land, which spread itself out on either side of the ships as far as the eye could reach, and found signs of a village; the place was called Canada by the natives, the meaning of the word in the native language being "The Town." This village was the seat of "government," and was occupied by an Indian chief called Donnacona; it was situate right on the shore of the bay formed by the junction of the rivers St. Charles and St. Lawrence. The village seemed to con-

sist of huts built irregularly on the steep sides of a mountain, the spot later being the position of the southerly and easterly quarters of Quebec. The highest value of the Jubilee set gives us a picture of Cartier's flotilla as it appeared at anchor before the site to be of Quebec.

Chief Donnacona seemed kindly disposed towards the white men, so Cartier decided to winter where he was, especially as the season was getting late. He accordingly had a fort built out of great squared logs of wood, in order that he and his men might live in comfort and security.

Early in the following year he explored the St. Lawrence River by ship as far as what is now Montreal, where he formally declared the land to be annexed to France in the name of King Francis I. He then sailed back to France to tell the tale of his adventures.

On his third voyage, which took place in 1541, he took with him a few emigrants, who settled in the new country under the leadership of Roberval; however, Cartier was obliged to bring them back to France again only four years afterwards.

The above were a few of the chief events in the life of Jacques Cartier, to whom is given the credit of having been the discoverer of Canada. Ever

since 1852 Great Britain has honoured his memory by using his portrait as the design of one of the Canadian stamps. In France they were longer paying tribute to the memory of the Royal Pilot, but in 1905 a monument was erected in St. Malo, where he first saw the light in 1491. The date and place of his death are unknown to us.

On the 1 cent stamp next to Cartier we see a portrait of Samuel de Champlain, who was born in 1570 and died in 1635. In 1603 he was commissioned by King Henry IV (of France) to found a settlement in Canada. On his first voyage he sailed up the St. Lawrence, and established friendly relations with the various native chiefs of the tribes inhabiting the country through which the river flowed.

On his second voyage he was accompanied by only thirty people, and on July 3, 1608, he landed at the village of Canada, which was mentioned above. His first thought was to find a site suitable for the erection of an "*abitation*" where he might pass the winter that was coming on. "I could find no more comfortable or better spot than the land around Quebec, where countless nut trees were to be seen," wrote Champlain. That was exactly the same place where Cartier had built his fort sixty years before.

Thanks to extreme industry, winter quarters were rapidly erected. The habitation consisted of three principal buildings, each two stories high. Two of these buildings measured 18 ft. long by 9 ft. wide, and the

by one of the terms of the Treaty of Saint-Germain-en-Laye, which was concluded in 1632. Richelieu at once sent Champlain back to Quebec as Governor-General of Canada.



third, used as a storehouse, was 36 ft. long by 18 ft. wide, and had a large cellar. In the first building Champlain lived with a few of the workmen in the lower story; in the other the remaining workpeople lived, and had with them the arms and ammunition of the whole party. An annexe was attached to one of the buildings, and it was used as a smithy; a few of the people also slept there. The whole of the buildings were enclosed by a trench or moat 15 ft. wide and 9 ft. deep, to protect the settlers from the ravages of wild beasts.

Champlain had earthworks thrown up on the inner side of the moat, on which cannons were mounted. Between the encampment and the river there remained a strip only 24 ft. wide; and behind, on the side of the mountain, there was a plot of arable land a little more than 100 ft. long and 60 ft. wide, where Champlain had corn sown and vines planted.

This encampment was actually the start of the city of Quebec, which had grown considerably by 1700, as we see by the view on the 10 cent stamp. To-day Quebec is



Twice more, in 1690 and 1711, the English besieged Quebec, but they were not able to capture the town. But in 1759 General James Wolfe was ordered by Pitt to clear the French right out of Canada. The French troops were under the command of Marquis Ludwig Joseph Montcalm, of Saint-Véran. Although the latter was in command of only a small force, he was able to claim several victories, but finally he was besieged in Quebec by General Wolfe, at the head of 30,000 men. He was obliged to give battle under unequal conditions, and on September 13 was mortally wounded at the battle of the Heights of Abraham and died two days later. The victorious English general was also killed in the same battle.

The names of both these leaders, enemies though they were, have graven themselves inseparably on the memories of the inhabitants of Quebec. In 1827 the Governor of Canada, Lord Dalhousie, erected a marble monument to their memory, on which is a Latin inscription, which may be rendered freely thus:—

“ Their courage caused their death.

History praises them both.

Posterity erects this monument to their honour.”



split up into two distinct divisions, and has a population of 70,000. The Old Town, or Upper Town, is situate on the north bank of the river, on a plateau high up on the hills, where a view extending over 100 miles is obtainable. The New, or Lower, Town stretches out right down the steep slope to the banks of the river.

On the 7 cent stamp we see portraits of those two great generals, Montcalm and Wolfe, both of whom were killed fighting against each other on the heights of Quebec.

So early as 1628 Quebec was captured by the English, in spite of Champlain's brave defence; but Canada was restored to France

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We have prepared a new stamp hinge, of convenient size, put up in air-tight tin boxes, each containing 1000 hinges of good tough paper, doubly gummed, and thus easily peelable.

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**Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.,
391 Strand, London, W.C.**

British Stamps used Abroad—*continued*

By I. J. BERNSTEIN AND CHAS. NISSEN

(Continued from Vol. VIII, p. 331.)

GROUP VII

THIS group—the latest occasion on which British stamps have been used abroad—consists of the three stations Akassa, Burutu, and Lokoja in the territory of the Royal Niger Company, Chartered and Limited. It is an exceedingly interesting one, and, although the most modern, less is known about these stamps than of some of the earlier ones.

The territory governed by the Company comprised about half a million square miles, and consisted of the whole of both Northern and Southern Nigeria as it exists to-day, with the exception of the Oil Rivers Protectorate and Lagos.

In 1900 the property of the Company was acquired by the British Government and merged into the above-named colonies, and the whole divided into two colonies called Northern and Southern Nigeria.

As with the other groups of British stamps used abroad, its philatelic history is perfectly clean and free from any attempt at speculative issue; as a matter of fact, the Company, having absolute sovereign power over their territory, would have been perfectly justified in issuing stamps of their own, as other companies have done. This, however, was not done, and for years an arrangement seems to have existed whereby the postage was collected at this end without surcharging, and letters were endorsed "R. Niger. No local stamps." It would seem that although the Company provided the post office and despatched the letters they were content for the mother country to take the fee. This arrangement lasted from 1891 till 1895, and letters were cancelled by means of a rubber stamp, in violet, "The Niger Territories Post Office" in a double-lined oval, with date and town in centre.



As, however, it occasionally happened that letters went to foreign countries where such an arrangement did not exist, and also occasionally in Great Britain, some local post offices charged a double fee on account of the absence of stamps, British stamps were

purchased by the Niger Company and sent for use to their post offices in the territory.

Thus we find the unique example of British stamps being used, the revenue going entirely to the British Post Office and the work being done by a Colonial Government.

Apart from the officials of the Company and a number of missionaries, the estimated population of twenty-five to thirty millions consisted solely of natives, and the number of stamps used was extremely limited, the largest part going, as was only natural, to the offices of the Royal Niger Company. Consequently the stamps are very rare, more particularly as the obliteration, notwithstanding that it had the words "Post Office" embodied in it, was looked upon for a long time as a fiscal cancellation, mainly owing to the fact that it was made by a rubber stamp and was usually in violet ink, and is different in form from any obliterator ever used by a post office in Great Britain or any of her colonies. The rate of postage being the Postal Union rate, the 2½d. value, its multiples and components are naturally the commonest.

The stamps were in use from June 1, 1895, until December 31, 1899, when the territory was taken over by the Imperial Government.

Akassa.—This is evidently the principal postal town, as we find stamps in use here on June 1, 1895.

The postmark used here consisted of a double-lined rectangle with the inscription, "The Royal Niger Company Chartered and Limited," date, "Post Office, Akassa," in five



lines, and remained in use until the end of 1898. The varieties known are all cancelled in violet, and are as follows:—

- ½d., vermillion.
- 1d., lilac.
- 2½d., purple on blue.
- 3d., purple on yellow.
- 5d., lilac and blue.
- 6d., purple on red.
- 9d., lilac and blue.
- 10d., lilac and vermillion.
- 2s. 6d., lilac.

In January, 1897, a new obliterator was brought into use somewhat larger than the preceding, and consisting of the same inscription but larger type, and in a single-lined frame, octagonal in shape.



This remained in use until December 31, 1899, and the following varieties are known:—

½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 4½d., 5d., 6d.,
9d., 1s., 2s. 6d.

Burutu.—In 1898 the office at Burutu was supplied with stamps, and the double-line obliterator as used in Akassa was used here, with the town name Burutu substituted for Akassa.



This remained in use till December 31, 1899, and except for the last three months

of 1899 was always in violet, for the short period mentioned above it was in a bluish black.

The varieties known are:—

½d., 1d., 2½d., 3d., 5d., 6d., 9d., 10d., 2s. 6d.

Lokoja.—Although this was one of the earliest settlements stamps do not seem to have been one of the products of civilization introduced here. As a matter of fact it is not till nearly the end of the Niger Company's regime that we have any evidence of their use. These stamps are by far the rarest, and the fact that they were only used for about four months would easily account for that fact. The postmark employed here consisted of a large-sized oval, with "Lokoja" at



top between the lines, flanked by two crosses, "Post Office" in the corresponding position in the lower segment, and date in the blank space in the centre. It was impressed in violet, and the varieties known are:—

½d., 1d., 2½d.

This postmark, being without the inscription "Royal Niger Company," continued in use after the Imperial Government assumed its sway, and may be found on both Northern Nigeria and Lagos stamps after January 1, 1900.

(To be continued.)

The Postage Stamps of Belgium—contd.

By CH. DE BONT

Issue of November 1, 1865.

THE authorities had noticed that the plates used for printing the existing issue were wearing out rapidly, and consequently the cost of the *taille-douce*



method of printing was dear, so they decided that for the future the stamps should be surface-printed from electrotyped plates.

The celebrated engraver J. Wiener was asked to submit designs for a new stamp, and although he prepared several, some of which seem to have been eminently suitable, none of them were accepted by the Administration.

On February 3, 1864, the Minister of Public Works decided to open a competition, with a view to obtaining a suitable die. The ministerial circular states that the object of the competition is to obtain a die which should be suitable for the production of electrotyped plates, from which stamps could be made by the surface-printed process. The die was to be as near perfection as possible, especially from an artistic point of view and in the degree of finish, which should

make it a really fine piece of work. A prize of 5000 francs (£200) was to be paid to the artist whose die was adjudged the best and most worthy of being actually used. The payment of the prize-money was also to vest all rights to the die in the Administration, to use in any way that might be thought desirable. In spite of this offer very few projects were submitted, and none were of the slightest use to the Administration.

The Minister of Public Works then negotiated with that world-renowned London firm of stamp manufacturers, Messrs. De La Rue and Co., who not only supplied the Belgian Government with a stock of 45,000 1 franc stamps on satin-surfaced paper, but also sent over to Belgium a complete printing outfit, together with a number of workmen specially skilled in the manufacture of stamps.

As De La Rue and Co. supplied 45,000 of the above-mentioned stamps, for many years it has been thought that this issue was printed entirely in London, which was not the case. Afterwards Belgian workmen continued to print similar stamps, but the Belgian impression can easily be distinguished from the London by the poorer appearance of the former.

A decree dated September 25, 1865, of which the following is an extract, announced that the new stamps were to be issued.

"We have decreed and do decree :

"Art. I. Stamps of a new design will be issued for the purpose of franking all articles conveyed by the Post Office.

"Art. II. These stamps will be sold at face value by the Administration of Posts, the values being 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 30, and 40 centimes, and 1 franc.

"The 10 c. stamp and the higher values will show Our Effigy in the design.

"The values lower than 10 c. will bear the Arms of the Kingdom."

On October 7, 1865, a decree was promulgated, which fixed the date of issue and the colours of the stamps. It reads as follows :—

"MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS.

"THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS, pursuant to the Royal Decree of September 25, 1865, giving him the power to determine the design, colour, and date of issue of the new postage stamps, etc.,

"DECREES :

"I. The colours of the postage stamps which are to be used to frank all articles transmitted through the post will be as follows :—

1 centime stamp . . .	Grey
2 centimes , , . . .	Blue
5 , , , . . .	Bistre
10 , , , . . .	Grey
20 , , , . . .	Blue
30 , , , . . .	Bistre
40 , , , . . .	Carmine
I franc , , , . . .	Lilac

"II. The date of issue of the 30 centimes and 1 franc stamps is fixed for November 1, 1865.

"Brussels, October 7, 1865.

"JULES VANDERSTICHELEN."

A second decree dated November 24 of the same year gave notice that the 10, 20, and 40 centimes stamps would be issued for the first time on January 1, 1866. The stamps of this issue comprise five values, all of which bear a portrait of Leopold I; they differ considerably from each other, especially as regards the frame, which varies in each value. They were surface-printed on white wove paper of varying quality.

There are numerous varieties of perforation, and amongst others one variety is noticeable in which the horizontal perforations are missing. Part of this issue was perforated by Messrs. Gouweloo's, the gauge being $14 \times 14\frac{1}{2}$, and part by the government workmen, the gauge being 15; the 1 franc stamps that were printed in London were perforated 14 all round.

Altogether there were no less than six distinct printings of the 1865 issue, the details being as follows :—

First printing.—November, 1865. Very good impression. Perf $14\frac{1}{2} \times 14$, by Gouweloo's and Co.

10 c., grey	15,000,000
20 c., blue	9,000,000
30 c., red-brown	900,000
40 c., pale rose	1,200,000
I fr., violet	90,000

Second printing.—December, 1866. Fair impression on thin, white paper.

10 c., grey	7,500,000
20 c., blue	3,000,000
30 c., brown	600,000
40 c., rose-carmine	300,000
I fr., deep violet	30,000

Third printing.—February, 1867. Common-looking impression on thin, white paper.

10 c., grey	9,000,000
20 c., blue	6,000,000
30 c., pale brown	600,000
40 c., pale rose	600,000
I fr., violet	45,000

Fourth printing.—July, 1867. On white, thick or medium paper.

10 c., deep grey	12,000,000
20 c., deep blue	7,500,000
30 c., yellowish brown	900,000
40 c., deep carmine	600,000
I fr., deep violet	90,000

Fifth printing.—February, 1868. Perf. 15. On thick, white paper.

10 c., grey-black	21,000,000
20 c., greenish blue	12,000,000
30 c., yellowish brown	1,500,000
40 c., carmine	1,500,000
I fr., pale violet	120,000

Sixth printing.—Perf. 15. On thick, yellowish paper.

10 c., blue-grey . . .	15,000,000
20 c., sky-blue . . .	9,000,000
30 c., yellow-bistre . . .	1,200,000
40 c., deep rose . . .	600,000
1 fr., deep violet . . .	90,000

REFERENCE LIST.

(a) *London print.* Perf. 14 all round.
1 fr., pale violet.

(b) *Good impression.* Perf. $14\frac{1}{2} \times 14$.
10 c., pale grey. | 30 c., pale red-brown.
20 c., blue. | 40 c., rose.
1 fr., violet.

(c) *Fair impression. Thin paper.* Perf. $14\frac{1}{2} \times 14$.

10 c., pale grey, grey, blue-grey, grey-black.
20 c., pale blue, blue, deep blue.
30 c., pale red-brown, brown, deep brown.
40 c., rose, deep rose.
1 fr., deep violet.

(d) *Poor impression on common paper.* Perf. $14\frac{1}{2} \times 14$.

10 c., grey, pale grey, grey-black.
20 c., deep blue.
30 c., brown, deep brown.
40 c., rose.
1 fr., deep violet.

(e) *On thin paper.* Perf. 15.

10 c., pale grey, grey, grey-black, deep grey-black.
20 c., pale blue, greenish blue, dull blue, sky-blue, violet-blue.
30 c., pale brown, brown.
40 c., rose, pale rose, lilac-rose.
1 fr., violet.

(f) *On varying thick paper.* Perf. 15.

10 c., grey, pale grey, dull grey, bluish grey, grey-black.
20 c., pale blue, greenish blue, deep blue, dull blue, sky-blue.
30 c., yellow-brown, brown, red-brown, deep brown.
40 c., rose, deep rose, lilac-rose.
1 fr., violet.

Reprints.

Reprints of these stamps were made on satin-surfaced paper.

10 c., grey.
20 c., blue.
30 c., brown.
40 c., rose.
1 fr., violet.

Varieties.

I. Copies of the 10 c., grey, 20 c., blue, and 30 c., pale brown, in which the lettering in the tablets appears to be thicker and the background whiter: these are printed from plates which were nearly past use.

II. 10 c., grey; imperf. vertically.

III. 30 c., brown " horizontally.

IV. 10 c., grey
20 c., blue
30 c., brown
40 c., rose
1 fr., violet

Essays.

The following list gives the names of the various persons and firms who submitted designs:—

De La Rue; adopted type.

J. Wiener; design not accepted.

Delpierre	"	"
Dargent	"	"
Hanoteau	"	"
Asthower	"	"
Oatoul	"	"
Tisch	"	"
Lemaire	"	"
Sels	"	"
Willebuls	"	"

(To be continued.)

STANLEY GIBBONS PRICED CATALOGUE OF THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF THE WORLD

Vol. I. Great Britain and Colonies.
Post-free, 2s. 9d.

Vol. II. The Rest of the World.
Post-free, 2s. 10d.

Foreign Notes

By FRANK PHILLIPS

Postal Rates in the Argentine Republic

A CORRESPONDENT of *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* states that on December 1 last the tariff on letters for abroad was reduced from 15 centavos to 12 centavos. It will be remembered that a new 12 centavos stamp showing a portrait of General San Martin was chronicled in *G.S.W.* last week; it is probable that the new stamp was issued on the date when the new rate came into force.

The Stamp Bourse of Paris

THIS celebrated institution, dating back many years, was referred to in these columns but a few weeks ago, and now a correspondent of *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* thinks that a Bourse held in a hall would be preferable in winter; but to translate his remarks:—

"The Stamp Bourse held at the Carré Marigny (a large open space) is not a very pleasant place to frequent, in winter at any rate, and many collectors think twice before going there. Would

it not be possible to hire some covered premises in Paris that could be heated when necessary, where collectors could meet once or twice a week to exchange their duplicates? The building would only be open to those who paid an annual subscription of five or ten francs, and would certainly become the refuge of those philatelists whose rheumaticky limbs cannot withstand the icy blasts of the Champs-Elysées.

"Meetings should preferably take place in the evening instead of in the day time, as then far more collectors would be able to take advantage of leisure moments to add to their previous collections."

Very good! But it is reasonable to suppose there would be more than one philatelic society established in Paris, holding meetings just as described above. The charm of the old Bourse would be taken away. There, no formalities, no subscriptions, no ceremony; just a number of collectors and dealers, chiefly the latter, and most of them dealers in a very small way of business: they offer their wares to the passer-by—wares that may be genuine, or otherwise . . . the latter is often the case . . . prices are low, bargains are many . . . or they used to be . . . but each has to back his own opinion when he buys, for there can be no question of returning a forgery. The seller is here to-day, gone to-morrow; he may have "done" you knowingly, but perhaps he didn't know; perhaps he acted in good faith, and there is not much knowledge amongst the dealers in the old Bourse aux Timbres under the trees of the Champs-Elysées!

Let the old institution alone; though it has lost much of its prestige of years ago, in the hearts of a few the glamour remains.

Dutch Indies

ALTHOUGH I have already given the numbers of the Dutch Indies that were overprinted "UITEN—BEZIT" (see *G.S.W.*, October 17, 1908, p. 254), I do not think I have mentioned the quantities overprinted "JAVA." For purposes of reference, I now give the two lists side by side, my authority for the figures being the *Nederlandsch Tijdschrift*:

Value of stamp.	Overprinted "JAVA."	Overprinted "UITEN— BEZIT."
½ Cent	4,780,000	3,170,000
1 "	3,600,000	2,400,000
2 "	1,200,000	800,000
2½ "	1,400,000	900,000
3 "	300,000	200,000
5 "	1,020,000	680,000
10 "	3,900,000	2,600,000
12½ "	390,000	260,000
15 "	306,000	204,000
20 "	225,000	150,000
25 "	375,000	250,000
30 "	373,000	182,000
50 "	294,000	106,000
1 Gulden	126,000	84,000
2½ "	24,000	16,000

"Stamps for Greenland"

In *G.S.W.* dated December 19, 1908, I referred to the issue of three stamps for the territory of Greenland; it was not known whether the stamps were really officially issued, so they were not chronicled in our New Issue pages.

Monsieur L. Hanciau very kindly gives the following information, which, he states, is from an official source.



The stamps of Greenland were issued by the "Kongelige groenlandske Handels Kompanie" (i.e. The Royal Trading Company of Greenland). This company apparently undertakes the conveyance of mails to Greenland, and has issued the above stamps to denote the carriage paid on all mail matter conveyed by their ships.

It is stated that they are really officially issued stamps, but before accepting them it would be as well to find out whether matter emanating from Greenland, and franked solely with these stamps, would be delivered without further charge by the postal authorities of Denmark or of other countries. I think not. Perhaps the stamps are somewhat of the same nature as the British Railway Letter stamps.

At any rate, the stamps are printed in sheets of twenty-five at the Government Printing Office in Copenhagen. The celebrated artist Gerhard Heitmann is responsible for the design, which was reproduced photographically by Fr. Hendriksen for printing purposes.

Frankly, does any reader think that the artist and the photographer have made a success of their stamp?

The Siamese Jubilee Stamps

As was stated last week in a paragraph in "New Issues and Discoveries," King Chulalongkorn I is celebrating the fortieth year of his reign in the time-honoured way; i.e. by means of a complete set of Jubilee stamps. The king's appellation in Siamese is "Somdet Phra Paramindr Maba"; perhaps some linguistically inclined reader may know what it means. He succeeded to the throne of his father on October 1, 1868, being then only fifteen years old. A curious fact relating to the native succession laws is

that although the royal dignity is nominally hereditary, it does not descend always from the father to the eldest son, each sovereign being invested with the privilege of nominating his own successor.

The Jubilee celebrations took place in Bangkok during the month of October, 1908, and the various Jubilee stamps were issued on November 11.

For the lower five values the old stamps, showing a design of Wat Cheng, "The Temple of Light," were made to do by overprinting them with the Jubilee wording and dates, in Siamese and English characters. Seven "tical" values of quite a new design were also issued, the central figure being a soldier on horseback; it probably depicts some statue in Bangkok; this stamp is illustrated a page or two further on under "New Issues."

The correspondent who sent these was not quite clear as to whether they are intended as commemorative stamps. It is more likely that these high-value stamps are in part to replace the provisionals issued in 1907 (Nos. 158-160 of Catalogue).

The following are the numbers printed:—

1 att	500,000
3 atts	100,000
4 atts on 5 atts	170,000
8 atts	8,000
18 atts	47,500
1 tical	2,500
2 ticals	2,500
3 ticals	2,500
5 ticals	2,500
10 ticals	2,500
20 ticals	2,500
40 ticals	2,500

New Issues and Discoveries

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Bahamas.—We have received a copy of the old 1d. "Queen's Staircase" type, which appears to be a new printing from a rather worn plate. The paper is thinner, and the colours are slightly altered, but the watermark still remains C.C.



5

1908. Type 6. Centre in first colour. Wmk. Crown C C,
Type w. 5. Perf. 14.
41a/1d., greyish black and dull scarlet.

British Honduras.—Mr. A. Orr-Ewing has shown us a copy of the new 2 c. in one colour, on unsurfaced, multiple paper.



14

DEC. 7, 1908. Type 14. Name and value in second colour.
Wmk. Multiple Crown C A. Perf. 14.
96 | 2 c., carmine, O.

Canada.—In our issue of December 26, 1908, we gave a list of the values known to us with certain plate numbers: to this list Mr. A. H. Stamford kindly tells us that we must add the 1 c. and 2 c., Plate 4. Mr. Stamford states further that his 1 c., Plate 3, is on white paper, and Plates 1 and 2 on greenish paper. As our former correspondent said that the 1 c., Plate 3, was on toned paper, we must presume, as Mr. Stamford states, that the apparent toning of the paper is accidental, and is probably caused by the running of the ink.

Our list now stands as follows:—

Plate 1	|	½, 1, 2, 5, 7, 10, 15, 20 c.
"	2	| 1, 2, 5 c.
"	3	| 1 c.
"	4	| 1, 2 c.

Crete.—We have received a number of varieties of the overprint "ΕΛΛΑΣ," on several different values, and foreign contemporaries chronicle others. The list is as follows:—

ΕΛΛΑΣ

34

SEPTEMBER 21, 1908. Stamps of Crete overprinted as
Type 34, in black.

Varieties. (i.) "Σ" of overprint inverted, reading
"ΕΛΛΑΣ."

- 140 7 | 1 l., red-brown.
- 141 16 | 2 l., violet.
- 142 17 | 5 l., green.
- 147 21 | 50 l., brown.

(ii.) "Δ" instead of "Α" in overprint, reading
"ΕΛΛΑΔΣ."

- 153 7 | 1 l., red-brown.
- 155 17 | 5 l., green.

(iv.) Overprint reading "ΕΛΑΛΣ."

174|17 5 l., green.

(v.) First "Λ" of overprint omitted, reading "Ε ΛΑΣ."

181|17 5 l., green.

POSTAGE DUE STAMPS. Type 51 overprinted with Type 34, in black.

Varieties. (i.) "Σ" of overprint inverted, reading "ΕΛΛΑΣ."

224 40 l., red.

226 1 dr. on 1 dr., red.

227 2 dr., red.

(ii.) "Δ" instead of "Α" in overprint, reading "ΕΛΛΔΣ."

232 40 l., red.

234 1 dr. on 1 dr., red.

235 2 dr., red.

New Hebrides [Br.] (Anglo-French Condominium).—A set of seven stamps has now been issued by the British authorities for use in this Condominium. The new stamps consist of the current stamps of the Fiji Islands, all overprinted in *black* with the words "NEW HEBRIDES—CONDONIUM" in two lines, but with the word "FIJI" obliterated with a broad band of colour of the same shade in each case as the word it covers.



23



24

NEW HEBRIDES

CONDONIUM

1

NOVEMBER 1(?) 1908. Types 23 and 24 (2d. and 1s.) of Fiji, overprinted with Type 1, in black, the word "FIJI" obliterated with a bar in colour of word. Perf. 14.

Wmk. Multiple Crown C A, Type w. 8.

1	|	½d.	green, O.
2	|	1d.	carmine, O.

Wmk. Crown C A, Type w. 6.

3	|	2d.	purple and orange.
4	|	2½d.	" blue on blue.
5	|	5d.	" green.
6	|	6d.	" carmine.
7	|	1s.	green and "

Paraguay.—We have received more varieties of the complicated surcharges on the 1 peso Official stamp, which were illustrated and described in our issues of December 12 and 26, 1908, and also another variety of one of the many provisionals.



Habilitado en

5

CENTAVOS

44

1908. Type 39 surcharged as Type 44, in black. Variety (iii.). Figure "5" omitted.

(5) c. on 2 c., vermilion.

1908. Type 40, with "OFICIAL" added under figure of value, overprinted "Habilitado—1908—UN CENTAVO—" in four lines, thus: with Type 42a in black, Type 45 in red, and surcharged as Type 46 in black.

Varieties. (v.) Type 45 inverted.

1 c. on 1 p., black and lake.

(vi.) Types 45 and 46 inverted.

1 c. on 1 p., black and red.

Siam.—A correspondent very kindly sends us a new set of high-value postage stamps. We do not know if these are to be regarded as a Jubilee issue, but they portray some monument in Bangkok.



58

NOVEMBER 11, 1908. Type 58. Centres in first colour. Perf. 13½.

181 1 t., violet and green.

182 2 t., orange and purple.

183 3 t., ultramarine and light yellow-green.

184 5 t., sage-green and deep lilac.

185 10 t., rose-carmine and brownish olive.

186 20 t., brown and greyish slate.

187 40 t., black-brown and greenish blue.

United States.—Our American house sends us the new 1 cent, bearing a head of Franklin. Excepting the head and value, the design is similar to that of the 2 c. listed in our issue of December 19, 1908.



112

DECEMBER, 1908. Type 112. Perf. 12. 447 1 c., green.

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VOL. IX.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

Gibraltar—continued.

THE new stamps were first put on sale in November, 1889, and gradually replaced the above provisionals. The set was of uniform design, the die of the 2d. of the 1886 set having been altered and used for the manufacture. It comprised eight values, the 2d. (20 c.) being omitted, but new values, 75 c. ($\frac{7}{2}$ d.) and 5 p. (4s.), being included. In 1895 the 20 c. value was revived and appeared at first with the value in the same colour as the rest of the stamp. Soon afterwards the value was inserted in a different colour, and about the same time the 1 peseta appeared bicoloured and a new value, 2 pesetas, was added to the set. In this year the error referred to previously was chronicled. A sheet of the 10 c., carmine, was found in which two rows had the value omitted and the lower label consequently blank. This is naturally a great rarity, and the Catalogue price (£18) does not seem high. It is one of the few instances in which errors have escaped the "eagle eyes" of Messrs. De La Rue and Co.'s checkers.



1889-95. Issue in Spanish currency. Value in second colour. Same wmk. and perf.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 c., green	0 2	0 1
10 c., carmine	0 3	0 1
20 c., olive-green	0 6	0 6
20 c., olive-green and brown —	0 6	
25 c., ultramarine	0 6	0 4
40 c., orange-brown	0 8	0 9
50 c., lilac	1 0	1 0
75 c., olive-green	4 0	4 0
1 p., bistre	10 0	10 0
1 p., bistre and ultramarine 1 6	1 6	1 6
2 p., black and carmine 4 0	4 0	4 0
5 p., blue-grey	10 0	

In 1898, consequent on the Spanish-American War, the Spanish currency greatly depreciated in value. Accordingly on September 14, 1898, a Government notice was issued making British sterling money legal tender in Gibraltar, and stating, "From the 1st October, 1898, all postage fees will be payable in British money, and stamps having the duties expressed in Spanish currency will cease to be valid in prepayment of postage in Gibraltar. New postage stamps, etc., with sterling duties will be on sale on 1st October, 1898."

The new stamps were identical in design with those of 1886. The 2d., 4d., 6d., and 1s., however, were bicoloured, whilst the $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., and $\frac{2}{3}$ d. were in different shades.

Oct. 1, 1898. Reissue in English currency.
Stamps as issue of December, 1886.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
$\frac{1}{2}$ d., grey-green	0 2	0 2
1d., carmine	0 4	0 1
2d., red-lilac and ultramarine	0 9	0 9
$\frac{2}{3}$ d., bright ultramarine	0 5	0 3
4d., orange-brown and green	1 0	
6d., violet and red	1 6	
1s., bistre and carmine	2 6	

The above stamps continued in use until the appearance of the King's Head stamps in 1903. Early in May of that year Gibraltar commenced the issue of a series of ten values, of which the six lower values were of the ordinary size, and the four higher values of a large upright rectangular size. The design for all the values was quite new and original, and the stamps labelled "POSTAGE AND REVENUE" superseded as well the fiscal stamps then in use. The design of the large stamps closely resembled the old fiscal stamps, and the unusual values of 4s. and 8s. included in the set were evidently expected to be used chiefly for fiscal purposes, as they replaced similar ones in the old fiscal series. The stamps are not particularly handsome, and a curious feature is to be noted on the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamp, the value of

which is expressed as "2½ penny," instead of the more usual "Twopence-halfpenny" or "2½d." The lower values are printed in sheets of 240, four panes of sixty in ten rows of six, and the higher denominations in sheets of sixty only in six rows of ten stamps. The watermark was the single Crown CA, which in the case of the large stamps appears twice on each stamp. This fact should be remembered, as occasionally these stamps are supposed to be watermarked with the multiple CA, which, however, is of quite a different character.



1903. King's Head issue. Wmk. Crown CA.
Perf. 14.

	Unused.	Used.	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
½d., grey-green and green	0 9	0 9		
1d., lilac on red	0 6	0 6		
2d., grey-green and carmine	1 0	1 0		
2½d., lilac and black on blue	0 8	0 2		
6d., violet	2 0	1 6		
1s., black and carmine	3 6	3 0		
2s., green and blue	7 6			
4s., lilac and green	5 3			
8s., black on blue	12 6			
£1, " " red				

The ½d. value of the above series was one of the first stamps to be issued with the multiple watermark, but despite this fact the remaining values have been very slow in

making their appearance with this watermark; indeed, the 8s. has not yet been issued. This tardy appearance is probably because of the small population by whom the stamps are used. Of these multiples, the ½d., 1d., 2d., 6d., 1s., and 2s. have appeared both on *ordinary* and *chalky* papers; the 2½d., 4s., and £1 only on *chalky*. With the issue of these stamps the sheets of the smaller size were reduced to 120 stamps, two panes of sixty; and as regards the 2½d. bicoloured, this should be a fairly good stamp, as only 200 sheets were printed, and it has been superseded by the 2½d. all blue. The ½d. was all in one shade of green.

1904-7. As last, but wmk. Multiple Crown CA.				
	Unused.	Used.	Unused.	Used.
½d., green			s. d.	s. d.
1d., lilac on red			0 1	0 1
2d., grey-green and carmine			0 3	0 3
2½d., lilac and black on blue			0 8	0 8
6d., lilac and violet			0 8	0 6
1s., black and carmine			1 4	0 6
2s., green and blue			2 8	
4s., lilac and green				
£1, lilac and black on red				

In January, 1907, the 1d. appeared printed all in carmine, and six months later the 2½d. made its appearance printed entirely in ultramarine. In other respects the stamps are identical with those previously in use.

1907. As before, but printed in one colour.				
	Unused.	Used.	Unused.	Used.
1d., carmine			s. d.	s. d.
2½d., ultramarine			0 4	0 3

The above are the last stamps issued, and as will be seen from the foregoing list, no really unnecessary stamps have been issued. The stamps of Gibraltar are therefore in many ways most desirable and satisfactory ones to collect.

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Stock Books, and are, therefore, the Prices at which Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., will have pleasure in supplying any of the stamps that may be needed by any of our readers.

Topical Notes

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

The 1d. on Dickinson Paper

IN G.S.W., November 14, 1908, I published an interesting letter from Lord Crawford dealing with the Dickinson trials of the 1d. and 2d. stamps.

Unfortunately we omitted to correct a printer's error, which has caused some correspondence and misunderstanding.

On page 320, near the bottom of the first column, Lord Crawford stated:—

"The same authorities tell us that eight of these sheets were used and printed from Plate II of the Penny Value. (Of this there is no doubt possible, for I have a right top corner block of four with the plate number 'II' thereon.)"

In his MS. Lord Crawford wrote "Plate II," and that he had a block of four with the "plate number II," but the printers took the figures to be a Roman II, and set up the description as "Plate 2." "Plain Anchor,"

in his article in *G.S.W.*, January 2, 1909, refers to the slip, which I much regret was allowed to pass unnoticed.

"The History of the Postmarks of the British Isles from 1840 to the Present Day," by the late Mr. J. G. Hendy

As I announced some time ago, my firm has purchased the MS. of this important work, and early in February we shall commence to publish it as a *gratis supplement* to *G.S.W.*

We propose to give eight pages per week, and to number and page this work separately from the *Weekly*, so that subscribers may have it bound up separately when complete. It will contain some hundreds of illustrations, and all rights of reproduction will be strictly reserved.

Index to Vol. VIII

THE Index to the last volume was prepared rather hurriedly, and it was found that certain things had been omitted. We therefore printed a revised Index, and enclosed it with the last number of *G.S.W.*, and we shall be glad if our readers will substitute this new Index in place of the one sent out with the final number of the last volume.

Collection of Violins

AT their sale on December 23 last Messrs. Glendining and Co., Ltd. (7 Argyll Street, Oxford Circus, London, W.), realized the following good prices :—

	£ s. d.
A fine French violin by Charles Gaillard of Paris, excellent condition and tone, with bow in case	7 5 0
A fine old French violin, in case, excellent tone	12 10 0
A fine Italian violin, by Joannes Franciscus Pressenda, Turin, 1832, with bow in case	39 0 0
A fine condition Italian violoncello, Nicholas Racceris, Mantua, dated 1839	5 10 0
A fine old Italian violin	6 5 0
A fine old violin, by Carlo Landolfi, for many years the property of a professor	6 5 0
A fine old violoncello	7 5 0

Being so near Christmas, the sale was an unusually small one.

Coins and Medals

ON December 18 last Messrs. Glendining and Co., Ltd., sold a collection of coins and medals formed by a former Ambassador at the Court of Spain.

The following were interesting lots with the prices realized :—

	£ s. d.
Silver. Earl of Essex, 1642, bust in armour in relief, "Should hear both Houses of Parliament for true religion," etc., rev. the two Houses of Parliament with King and Speaker. Very fine badge with ring for suspension	1 6 0 0
Captain Cook, the explorer, medal by Lewis Pingo. Very fine and rare, in gold	6 10 0
Gold. Medal of Carlos III of Spain, bust of the King, rev. "VENCE Y TRIUNFA. EL MAS PRUDENTE," Spain seated at table, Minerva and others offering wreaths, etc. In the exergue "REAL. ACADEMIA. DE. DERECHO. ESPANOL. Y. PUBLICO 1778." Very fine and rare i	14 10 0
Gold. Spain, Philip V, doblon, 1741, struck at Mexico. Very fine	1 3 10 0
Charles III, half-doblon, 1762; quarter, 1770	2 2 10 0
Charles IV, doblon, 1796, Mexico mint. Very fine	1 3 6 0
Charles IV, half-doblon, 1804; pistole, 1801; both of Mexico and fine 2	2 10 0
Two bars — Acheron, February 3, 1805, Martinique (John Simpson, Midshipman). Very fine and extremely rare; only two medals issued	19 0 0
(Afterwards Captain. For this officer's lengthy services, see O'Byrne's <i>Naval Biography</i> , page 1071.)	
Three bars — Martinique, Guadeloupe, The Potomac, August 17, 1814 (William Walker, Purser). In brilliant condition and rare	8 15 0
(This officer served on H.M.S. <i>Erebus</i> .)	
China, 1842, to Lieutenant-General Sir Hugh Gough, Bart., G.C.B. Very rare and in mint state, original riband and case	10 10 0
China, 1900, one bar — Defence of Legations (Pte. J. Dean, R.M.L.I.), edge impressed. Very fine and very rare	8 10 0
Gold badge of the 2nd Class Order of British India (awarded to Subadar Mahomed Ghali, 10th Madras Infantry), in original case, inscribed with name of recipient. Fine and very rare	9 5 0
Manchester and Salford Volunteers, 1802 (Capt. John Dawson, 2nd Battalion), officer's gold medal. Brilliant and extremely rare	10 10 0
<i>An interesting variety in 1d. imperf. Great Britain stamps</i> was sold at Messrs. Glendining's auction on December 30 last. This was described as —	
Great Britain, 1841, 1d., red-brown; variety, letter missing from right label; fine, on small piece, very rare, and realized	£18 0 0

"The Philatelic Record"

FOR the past eight years *The Philatelic Record* has been most ably conducted by a small group of Manchester philatelists, amongst whom Messrs. Beckton, Gibson, and Duerst undertook a great proportion of the work.

In the last number of the *P.R.* it is announced that these gentlemen have not now the time necessary for such work, and that the paper will be under new management from the commencement of the new year.

The future proprietors will be philatelists who are interested in Philately only as amateurs, and a wise choice of editor has been made in selecting Mr. L. W. Fulcher, under whose fostering care I wish the *P.R.* the full measure of success that it has secured during the past thirty years.

New Wholesale List

OUR new Trade List for 1909 is now ready and will be sent to any stamp dealer, publisher, or stationer on receipt of business card.

This list quotes lowest possible prices for postage stamps per dozen and per hundred, unused and used, and also shows trade prices of all our albums, catalogues, handbooks, and all requisites of the stamp collector.

A number of new and cheap lines of goods are included that have not previously been offered to the trade.

Description of New Stock Books arranged and priced during the last week*Queensland.*

Two fine books of this country have just been rearranged, and included in them are

many rarities in the old issues, of which there is an exceptionally fine lot both used and unused.

The later issues are very complete, and collectors who have these books for an early choice will be able to secure some unusually fine specimens.

Chamba, Faridkot, Gwalior, Jhind, and Patiala.

Two very good books of this popular group have just been rearranged. All the countries are well represented, and there are many rare varieties and errors in the stamps of Gwalior, Jhind, and Patiala.

Tonga and Sarawak.

A fair lot of these two rather popular countries which have been somewhat largely speculated in of recent years.

New South Wales.

Two very fine books have just been remade, and include a fine lot of about 150 Sydney Views and a large number of the laureated and diademed issues. The later issues are very complete in all varieties of perforation, shade, etc., and include a number of rare stamps seldom found in stock books.

Siam and Monaco.

The Siam are a good lot and include a number of errors and rare varieties in the surcharges. There are two entire sheets of proofs of the first issue. The Monaco are a fair lot and include some scarce shades; the first issue stamps are certainly becoming rarer year by year.

The Postage Stamps of Belgium—*contd.*

By CH. DE BONT

A MINISTERIAL decree, dated May 9, 1866, fixed the issue of 1 centime stamps for June 1, 1866, and later two further decrees were promulgated authorizing the issue of 5 and 2 centime stamps on Sep-



Issue of 1866-7.

tember 1, 1866, and March 1, 1867, respectively.

A decree, dated August 28, 1866, stipulated

that those values might only be used on newspapers, printed matter, commercial paper, and samples such as were accepted for transmission at lower rates than were letters, etc.

The creation of two new values, 6 and 8 centimes, was sanctioned by a royal decree dated March 14, 1867, but as certain postal rates were altered the 6 centimes was not issued.

The stamps of this issue were produced by the typographic process, and were printed in colour on white paper of varying thickness; they were perforated first of all by Gouweloos, the gauge being $14\frac{1}{2} \times 14$. About the end of 1866 the remaining stock of stamps for printed matter was perforated 15 in the State Printing Works; these were on both the thick and the thin papers.

The 1 centime stamps are occasionally met with in an imperforate condition; these were not a special printing, but came about quite by chance. In 1866, between October 15 and December 15, the administration ran right out of the perforated 1 centime stamp, and were obliged to use imperforate to supply the needs of the public.

There were four separate printings of this 1 centime stamp, the numbers printed being as follows:—

Date.	No. Printed.	Paper.
Feb. 2, 1866 ...	72,000,000	Small proportion of thick, greyish paper.
April, 1867 ...	48,000,000	Thin and medium.
Oct., 1868 ...	36,000,000	Varying thickness.
Feb., 1869 ...	24,000,000	Thick paper.
	<u>180,000,000</u>	

The 5 centimes stamp was issued on September 1, 1866, the printings being as follows:—

1st printing ...	1,530,000	Deep brown, thin paper.
2nd , , ...	1,710,000	Deep brown, medium or thick paper.
3rd , , ...	750,000	Grey-bistre, thick paper.
	<u>3,990,000</u>	

The 2 centimes stamp was not issued until March 1, 1867, and altogether 2,700,000 copies were printed, divided thus:—

First printing.—May, 1867, consisted of 1,140,000 copies, in blue, on thin paper.

Second printing.—June, 1868, 960,000 copies, in blue, on both thick and medium paper.

Third printing.—October, 1868, 288,000 copies, in blue, on paper of varying thickness.

Fourth printing.—April, 1869, 402,000 copies, on thick paper.

The 1 and 2 centimes were reprinted in 1898 and 1901 on a thin, satin-surfaced paper, but they were not perforated.

REFERENCE LIST.

Thin or medium paper. Imperf.

1 centime, grey, black-grey.

Medium paper. Perf. 14½ x 14.

1 centime, pale grey, deep grey.

2 centimes, blue.

5 , , brown, reddish brown.

Thin paper. Perf. 15.

1 centime, grey; deep grey, black-grey.

2 centimes, blue, dull blue, sky-blue.

5 , , brown, red-brown.

Thick paper. Perf. 15.

- 1 centime, grey, pale grey, bluish grey, deep grey, black-grey.
- 2 centimes, blue, sky-blue.
- 5 , , brown, pale brown.

REPRINTS.

Thin, satin-surfaced paper. Imperf.

- 1 centime, grey.
- 2 centimes, blue.

Issue of 1869-70.



The printings of the 1865 issue had been considerable, although most of the values had not been issued until after the death of King Leopold I, which took place in December, 1865. The Department of Public Works therefore resolved not to immediately replace these stamps by others bearing the effigy of Leopold II, in order that the existing stocks might be used up. So for four years, i.e. from 1865 to 1869, the stamps of the old design were current.

During this interval numerous designs bearing the effigy of Leopold II were submitted to the Ministry, notably by Messrs. Wiener, Doms, Frank, and Delpierre. The essay by Doms, which was designed by Hendrickx, was adopted.

A royal decree, reproduced here, dated November 13, 1869, authorized the issue of the new stamps:—

“LEOPOLD II, KING OF THE BELGIANS,

“To all who are present, or who may be present—Greeting.

“Be it decreed:—

“I. A postage stamp of new design is hereby created, and will be issued to the public for the purpose of franking articles transmissible by post.

“II. Of the above-mentioned postage stamps those of 10 centimes and above will bear Our effigy, and those of lower value the arms of the Kingdom.

“III. (Unimportant.)

“IV. The postage stamps issued by authority of Our decree of September 25, 1865, may be used concurrently with those of the new type until a date to be fixed later by our Minister of Public Works, who will also fix the date until which they may be exchanged, and who will also take all the steps necessary to the execution of this decree.

“Brussels, November 13, 1869.

(Signed) “LEOPOLD.”

Two more decrees, one dated November 14, the other December 12, 1869, set forth the colours and dates of issue of the new stamps. The information given may be tabulated as follows:—

1 c., colour green; to be issued November 15, 1869.

10 c., colour green; to be issued November 15, 1869.

2 c., colour blue; to be issued January 1, 1870.

8 c., violet " " "

20 c., blue " " "

5 c., amber " March 1, 1870.

30 c., amber " " "

40 c., carmine " April 1, 1870.

1 f., violet " " "

The above stamps were produced by the typographic process, and were perforated 15 up to 1881; from 1882 onwards the gauge was altered to 14.

The first printings of this issue took place on paper of varying thickness, the perforation gauging 15. A few of the values, such as the 1, 2, 5, and 8 centimes, may be found on a paper of which the surface is slightly shiny; other printings took place on thin, white paper.

1 and 10 centimes stamps.

First printing.—Took place in September, 1869; similar ink was used for both values, and the printing was very carefully executed. Fairly thick paper. Perf. 15.

1 centime, deep green, 48,000,000 copies.

10 centimes " 12,000,000 "

Second printing.—Dates from February, 1870. Thick paper. Perf. 15.

1 centime, pale yellow-green, 22,500,000 copies.
10 centimes " 11,400,000 "

Third printing.—Dated November, 1872. Paper only slightly shiny. Perf. 15.

1 centime, bright green, 17,100,000 copies.

Fourth printing.—Was done in October 1874. Fairly thick paper. Perf. 15.

1 centime, deep green, 54,000,000 copies.

10 centimes, deep blue-green, 20,100,000 copies.

Fifth printing.—Took place in September, 1877. Medium thick paper. Perf. 15.

1 centime, deep yellow-green, 21,600,000 copies.

10 centimes " 17,700,000 "

Sixth printing.—Dated March, 1879. Thin paper. Perf. 15.

1 centime, bright green, 13,200,000 copies.

Seventh printing.—Dated February, 1880. Thin paper. Perf. 15.

1 centime, blue-green, 27,900,000 copies.

10 centimes " 9,300,000 "

Eighth printing.—Dated January, 1881. Thin paper. Printed in vegetable ink, the colours therefore being fugitive. Perf. 15.

1 centime, grey-green, 11,700,000 copies.

10 centimes " 13,200,000 "

Ninth printing.—Dated August, 1882. Thin paper. Perf. 14.

1 centime, deep grey-green, 4,200,000 copies.

10 centimes " 690,000 "

(To be continued.)

Postage-Stamp Papers

By D. B. ARMSTRONG

MANY and varied are the makes and grades of paper which have been utilized at various times and by divers governments in connection with the manufacture of their postage-stamp issues.

Thick, thin; rough, smooth; brittle, tough; wove, laid; transparent, opaque—all these and others in great profusion have been employed.

Each has its own individual claim to superiority on the score of protection against the onslaughts of the stamp cleaner and faker; for the paper upon which the stamps are printed is second in importance only to the ink of the design itself as a factor in the great battle of wits which is continually being waged between the illicit cleaner of used postage stamps and the postal authorities of all nations.

It is not proposed to attempt to enter here into a detailed history of the whole art and science of paper-making, even as far as it

has been applied to the production of postage stamps. Such a work could not possibly be crowded into the limited space at the disposal of the writer, and if undertaken would completely fill several yearly volumes of this journal, to the total exclusion of all other and, doubtless, more interesting matter. Perhaps it might even be said that volumes have already been written on this very subject, for the number of articles and paragraphs dealing with paper manufacture as regarding the manufacture of postage stamps which have appeared in the philatelic press is very large indeed.

In view, however, of the Paper-making Exhibition lately held in Clifford's Inn Hall, the following account of some of the principal kinds of postage-stamp paper in use throughout the world to-day, accompanied by a few particulars as to the method of its production, may perhaps be acceptable to many philatelists.

The paper which is the most readily accessible for the purpose of study and comparison is that upon which our own penny and halfpenny postage stamps are printed. It is produced by a certain large paper mill in Kent, which county may be said to be the home of English paper-making, the water which is found in that district, and which plays an all-important part in the manufacture of paper, being particularly well adapted for the purpose. This mill holds the Government contract for paper supply, and turns out an average of about eight tons weekly, a large proportion of which is employed in producing the supply of low values of the current series of Great Britain. Cuttings of fine Irish long-cloth only are used in the manufacture of this paper, which is of the finest quality, and known as "linen-wove." These after having been thoroughly cleansed are reduced to a pulp by means of a special machine; this pulp is then subjected to a bleaching process by immersion in certain chemical solutions, after which it is placed under pressure to remove all superfluous bleaching matter. It is then reground into a still finer consistency and, being mixed with water, is run into a large vat in which it is kept continually in motion at an even temperature. The fluid pulp is next allowed to flow gradually on to an endless strip of wire gauze moving on rollers at a set speed, and, after it is evenly distributed over it, is permitted to settle and all unnecessary moisture is shaken off. At this juncture the watermark is impressed on the damp pulp by means of a circular drum, about six inches in diameter, constructed of brass gauze, and technically known as a "dandy-roll," upon which are fixed at intervals the devices of the watermark punched out of steel. When passed over the pulp these designs are impressed in it, producing when the paper is dry the watermark with which all philatelists are familiar. In the case of the current British stamps this "dandy-roll" is the property of the Inland Revenue authorities, and impresses a single device of an imperial crown upon the space occupied by each stamp on the printed sheet. That used for the paper intended for the printing of British Colonial stamps, however, is the property of the Crown Agents for the Colonies, its cost being defrayed by each of the Crown Colonies in proportion to the amount of watermarked paper used on its behalf. This cylinder produces the design of a royal crown above the initials C A, signifying Crown Agents, at irregular intervals on the sheet, thus constituting what is familiarly known to philatelists as the Multiple Crown C A watermark and to paper-makers as A. O. P. (all over the place) paper. These "dandy-rolls" are zealously guarded in order to prevent the surreptitious

manufacture of paper bearing the Government watermark, and when not actually in use are kept under lock and key in charge of an inspector specially appointed for this duty by the Inland Revenue authorities. Finally the pulp is thoroughly dried by being passed over a series of suction tubes, which effectively remove all superfluous moisture, and afterwards through a series of felt-covered rollers and steam-heated cylinders, when, having been treated with a preparation of animal size, it is at last turned out as the finished product.

At the end of each day the total number of sheets manufactured are counted and checked by the Inland Revenue officer, and should by any chance more have been made than the actual order on hand calls for, they are taken charge of by him, pending the receipt of further requisitions.

It should be borne in mind that although only one grade of paper is made to the order of the Inland Revenue authorities, two are produced for the Crown Agents, the second being thicker, and having a rougher surface; it is used for the printing of stamps from plates engraved in *taille-douce*. A month or two ago a few sheets of the surface-printed stamps of Antigua were by error printed upon this paper.

The supply of paper, as ordered, is then forwarded to Somerset House, where it is retained in the custody of the Controller of Stamps and Stationery, by whom it is issued to the printers as required. It is interesting to note that in addition to the paper upon which our own stamps are printed, that belonging to the various Colonial Governments also is for the most part stored at the Inland Revenue Offices, and it will probably be news to many that the India Office maintains a branch department at Somerset House to deal with the postage-stamp supply of our Indian Empire.

When fresh supplies of paper are required by the printers they are forwarded to the care of another Inland Revenue inspector at the company's works, by whom they are served out to the printers in quantities sufficient for one day's work only, for which a receipt is given, a like number of sheets having to be accounted for at the end of the day.

Vastly different ingredients go to make up the paper used for the current stamps of the United States, which being intended for the reception of line-engraved, as against surface-printed, designs, must needs present a decidedly coarse surface.

Uncle Sam's postage-stamp paper is, like our own, the product of a special mill holding the Government contract, the method of manufacture being practically identical with that detailed above. The principal constituents are, however, spruce pulp and soda.

The sheets are watermarked with the initials U.S.P.S.—in horizontal lines, arranged so that one letter falls on each stamp—which are impressed from a “dandy-roll” some ninety inches in length, which is, of course, the property of the U.S. Government, and must be surrendered at the termination of the contract.

Originally the paper is made in rolls weighing something like 200 lb. each, and measuring 74 inches wide, but these are subsequently divided into sheets measuring $18\frac{1}{2} \times 20\frac{3}{4}$ inches, capable of containing 400 impressions of printed postage stamps. Before being despatched to the Bureau of Printing and Engraving at Washington, these sheets are carefully sorted, and a mark placed on each to indicate the correct way of the watermark, and are then subjected to severe scrutiny by a number of girls whose duty it is to examine each sheet separately for defects, by holding it up to the light and looking through it in order to discover thin spots, etc., all sheets having the slightest flaw in them being immediately rejected and reground into pulp. Finally they are sent to Washington, where the designs are printed on them, and they are gummed and perforated.

Canadian stamp paper presents somewhat similar characteristics, and is probably produced from similar materials.

The current stamps of Austro-Hungary are printed on a peculiar grade of paper, known to philatelists as “granite.” It contains large numbers of minute coloured threads, which show up with great clearness upon the white surface. The makers are Messrs. Eichmann and Co., of Arnou. Between the years 1902 and 1905 these stamps were experimentally treated with diagonal bars of a chemical substance resembling varnish in appearance, as a precaution against fraudulent cleaning. These bars were applied by the firm of Albert Emmerick, of Prague.

Paper for the printing of Swedish postage stamps is made at a mill in the province of Scania, owned by Messrs. Klippan. Here the entire process of manufacture is carried out in the presence of a Government inspector, the paper being watermarked in a similar manner to that already described. It is despatched to the Central Post Office at Stockholm, where it is stored until required, when it is counted out to the printers by the Superintendent of Stamp Supply.

The stamps of France were for many years, and I believe are still, printed on paper supplied by Messrs. Lacroix, of An-goulême.

Messrs. Alexander Cowan and Sons supply the paper for the current stamps of New Zealand, whilst that upon which the issues of the Australian Commonwealth, watermarked Crown over A, are printed is also

obtained in England. The first supply of this paper sent out had an error in the watermarked marginal inscription, which read “COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA” and had to be discarded. [This was used for South Australian stamps. See *M.J.*, February, 1906.—ED. *G.S.W.*.]

No good object would be attained by enumerating all, or even half, of the numerous grades of paper at present employed in postage-stamp production and their various makers, but no article on this subject could possibly be considered complete which did not contain some reference to the famous safety paper at present used for so many British and Colonial postage-stamp issues, and which has been the cause of so much controversy in philatelic circles.

“Chalk-surfaced” paper, as this particular type of paper is called, was first brought into use in connection with the manufacture of British Colonial stamps in New South Wales, where, late in the year 1897, sample sheets of a heavily coated or “surfaced” paper were received and brought into use by the Government Printing Office at Sydney. Its use was not found, however, to be altogether satisfactory, as the ink easily rubbed off, and it was temporarily discarded.

In the following year a supply of this paper in a modified form came to hand, and being found to produce good results, is still employed in the production of the stamps of this colony.

It is also known as “perfection” paper, and stamps printed upon it are much clearer and brighter in appearance than those on other and unsurfaced papers. The chalk surface is also very susceptible to moisture, and will readily peel off if brought in contact with damp, so that it affords excellent protection against cleaning. For this reason it was adopted by the British postal authorities when, a few years ago, they were seeking a safety paper to be used in conjunction with their patent doubly fugitive inks in the manufacture of combined postage and Revenue stamps. The current British stamps were first printed on this paper in September, 1905, and to-day all British and Colonial postage and Revenue stamps, printed either wholly or partly in doubly fugitive ink, are on chalk-surfaced paper. It is interesting to note that the chalk surface in this instance is not applied until the paper actually reaches the printing works, and is not evolved during the process of manufacture, as was at one time generally supposed.

Portuguese stamps were printed upon paper of a similar grade to the above as early as 1885.

This must conclude my dissertation on “Postage-Stamp Papers.” No one is more painfully aware than myself that a great

deal has been left unsaid that might with advantage have been included, but the exigencies of space compel me to be brief. In conclusion permit me to say that a thorough knowledge of the chief character-

istics of the various grades of paper upon which the world's postage stamps have been printed is essential to the education of all who would excel in the pleasant and instructive science of Philately.

Mountains on Stamps

By H. G. JOBSON AND L. H. WALKER

A SUBJECT which occupies many of the picture stamps, both of British colonies and of foreign countries, is that of mountains. On the human mind mountains have always exercised a peculiar fascination, from the earliest times down to the present day.

The Greeks placed the abode of the gods at the summit of Mount Olympus, in Thessaly, and although ancient writers seem strangely inappreciative of most scenery, they always become loud in their praises of the rocky vale of Tempe, a narrow gorge in the mountains through which the River Peneus flows.

Mountains also play an important part in the division of races, for a high chain such as the Pyrenees forms an insuperable barrier to commerce and intercourse.

There are two examples of flat-topped mountains on stamps, one on the 1 c., 1898, British Guiana, and the other on the 1d. stamp of the Cape of Good Hope.

Mount Roraima, depicted on the first, is on the borders of Venezuela and British Guiana, and reaches a height of 7000 feet, being the highest peak in the Sierra Pacaraima. Table Mountain, 3549 feet high, is shown on the 1d. Cape of Good Hope stamps of 1893 and 1900.

The former also gives views of the Lion and Devil's Peak, the former being a rock in the shape of a lion. Often, when the clouds are low, a thick mist rolls over the top of the mountain, very much as a tablecloth covers a table, one of the reasons from which the name "Table Mountain" is derived.

Passing on to New Zealand we have some of the most imposing mountains in the British Empire, beautifully depicted by the very best engraving.

The 1d. 1898, stamp gives a view, on North Island, of Lake Taupo and Mount Ruapehu, which towers 9000 feet above it; the same mountain and a view of the magnificent Otira Gorge form the subject of the 5d. of the same issue. But the scenery of South Island far surpasses that of its more northerly neighbour.

Pembroke Peak, on Milford Sound, reminds one of the Norwegian fiords.

Further inland is Mount Earnslaw, on the shores of Lake Wakatipu, one of a number of prominent peaks on the chain of the

Southern Alps, the highest of which is Mount Cook, which reaches an altitude of 12,300 feet.

These are all shown on the 1898 issue.

In Borneo the loftiest mountain is Kini-Balou, in British territory, a picture of which appears on the North Borneo 18 cents, 1897.

Tasmania has numerous pictures of her scenery on the stamps of the 1900 issue, but only two are of any interest as regards our present subject, namely, Mount Wellington on the 1d., and Mount Gould, near Lake St. Clair, towards the centre of the island.

To turn to foreign countries, we have on the stamps of Bosnia and Herzegovina views in the Dinaric Alps, one being the valley of the Urba and the other the Narcuta Pass, on the 5 and 10 h. of the last issue.

The Balkans form a background to the battle of the Shipka Pass on the stamps commemorative of that event issued by Bulgaria in 1902.

Proceeding still farther south, we have a picture of the Cretan Mount Ida on the 5 dr., 1905. This mountain contains an intricate cavern, supposed to be the famous labyrinth in which dwelt the Minotaur, a monster, half bull, half man. It was killed by the Athenian hero Theseus, who found his way through the maze of turnings by means of a clue of thread given him by Ariadne, daughter of Minos, king of the island.

Guadeloupe has a view of Mount Houllemont behind Basse Terre, and also one of La Souffrière, an active volcano which occupies much the same position in Guadeloupe as Mount Pelée did on the neighbouring island of Martinique.

Another French colony, Réunion, has a view of a volcano on its stamps, namely, the Crater Dolomieu, which overshadows the chief town of St. Pierre.

A fine view of Mount Popocatapetl is shown on the 1 peso stamp of Mexico. This lofty volcanic mountain attains a height of 17,700 feet, and is, with the exception of Colima, the most northerly volcano in the long chain of mountains which run down the western side of the two Americas.

To conclude the list we have the Sugar Loaf Mountain, near Rio, and one of the Andes, or Cordillera, in Bolivia, on the stamps of Brazil and Bolivia respectively.

Notes of a Provincial Junior—*continued*

By YOKEL

(Continued from Vol. VIII, p. 329.)

South Australia

THIS country is one of the most interesting for the moderate specialist, as, although the stamps abound in varieties of perforation and shade, they are not hard to obtain, and a good display can be made at a moderate cost. There are not any prints from local plates, and consequently these stamps do not lend themselves to plating like the early stamps of New South Wales, Tasmania, and Victoria. The 1d. value was, however, printed from the 9d. plate, and surcharged "TEN PENCE" in six varieties of setting, but these varieties are ignored by the ordinary collector.

The arrangement of a collection must be left to the individual taste of each collector, but it is very doubtful if the method in Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue can be improved upon, and it is the arrangement followed in this article.

London Prints.

The first stamps issued in South Australia were of three values, viz. 1d., 2d., and 6d.; the 2d. value was issued in January, 1855, and the other two values in October of the same year. They were printed by Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co. from plates which they engraved, together with a 1s. value of a violet colour, which was sent to the colony, but was never issued. The 1d. value was printed in deep green, and is not easy to find in good condition, but the 2d., dull carmine, is a comparatively easy stamp to find, and is not difficult to obtain in pairs and strips. The 6d. was printed in a fine dark blue colour, and although not hard to obtain in fine singles is scarce in pairs. These stamps are all imperf., and were printed on paper watermarked with a Large Star.

Colonial Prints.

These four plates, 1d., 2d., 6d., 1s., were sent to the colony with the necessary paper and ink for the printing of same, but no difficulty is experienced in distinguishing the local prints, as the colours are entirely different, due to inexperience in the method of mixing the inks. These colonial prints were imperforate at first, but in 1859 a rouletting machine was used on this issue. The 1d. imperforate is found in two distinct shades, and is very scarce; the rouletted stamp is more easy to find; it is printed in yellow-green, and can usually be distinguished from the later issues by its

smudgy appearance. The 2d. imperforate is found in numerous shades ranging from blood-red to pale red. The early prints of this stamp are very smudgy; but the printing greatly improved, and some of the later pale red stamps are found almost as finely executed as the London prints. These stamps are all more difficult to obtain than the 2d., dull carmine, especially the fine impressions. The 2d. rouletted is only found in pale red, and is a very hard stamp to find of a good colour.

The 6d. was not printed in a deep blue but in a slate-blue colour. It is scarce imperf., and not very easily found rouletted; it was printed later in a purple-blue shade, but is only found rouletted.

The 1s. value was printed in orange; it is scarce imperforate, but comparatively common rouletted. In the rouletted issue there is a yellow and a greenish yellow shade; the latter is scarce.

1860-7 Issue. Rouletted.

The issue of 1860-7 includes 4d., 9d., 10d., and 2s. values, together with the 1d., 2d., 6d., and 1s. values printed in new shades, but mostly only found rouletted.

The 1d. is found in bright green, blue-green, and sage-green, of which the latter is scarce; the 2d., vermillion, is common, but the 4d. value printed in dull purple is very scarce in fine condition with roulettes perfect all round, and this remark applies to the 2s., which is of a rose-carmine colour. The 6d. is found in shades of dull blue, of which that approaching an ultramarine is the best. The 9d. is found in two shades, a brownish lilac being less often seen. The 10d. was printed from the 9d. plate and surcharged "TEN PENCE" in blue; it appeared first in orange-red; but later in yellow.

The 1s. is now appears in shades of brown, and is not rare. The 1d. value was afterwards printed in deep green, together with the 6d. in Prussian blue and the 1s. in chestnut; they are all scarce rouletted except the 1s. The 10d. is also found surcharged in black, but is not difficult to obtain.

1867-70 Issue.

In 1867 perforating machines were introduced, but it must not be imagined that the rouletting machine was discontinued. Not only was a perforating machine used in conjunction with a rouletting machine, but many of the stamps found rouletted are found in shades issued after the introduction of perforating machines, and the various

shades, rather than the different machines, form a better index to the dates of the printings. Two perforating machines were used at this period, one gauging about $11\frac{1}{2}$ and the other $12\frac{1}{2}$; the former was the machine generally used in conjunction with the rouletting machine, and the following stamps are found thus: 1d., blue-green and yellow-green; 4d., purple; 6d., sky-blue; 1d., Prussian blue; 10d., in blue, on 9d., yellow, and 1s. in brown and chestnut shades. The only stamps found perforated $12\frac{1}{2} \times$ roulette are the 6d., Prussian blue, and the 1s., brown, and these are scarce.

The 1d. stamps are printed in paler colours than were used at a later date. All these stamps are extremely scarce well centred, and the 4d. is rare in ordinary condition.

The perforated stamps are found perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$, perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$ or $12\frac{1}{2} \times 11\frac{1}{2}$, perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$, or perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$ on three sides and $12\frac{1}{2}$ on the other. All the varieties may perhaps be found on the same sheet.

The 1d. value is found in the two shades of the perf. \times roulette issue as well as deeper shades of yellow and full green; a pale yellow-green is the rarest.

The 4d. value is found in two shades, of which a dull lilac shade is not easy to find, especially well centred. The 1s. value is found in many shades, and dated copies are easily obtained, so that early issues can be distinguished from later printings.

The 2s., pale rose-carmine, is a rare stamp, and is similar in shade to the 2s. rouletted, but more washy.

(*To be continued.*)

The Romance of Philately

By SYDNEY CAMMERAY

A FEW weeks ago I spent the evening with a white-haired old gentleman who had two hobbies, photography and philately, and on this particular evening I found him engaged in examining stamps. Like all enthusiastic stamp collectors, he had a general collection, but he specialized in one particular series, and with him this was the line-engraved stamps of Great Britain, beginning with the first issue of the black penny of May, 1840, and ending with the old "penny reds" which were in use so late as 1879.

The outsider wonders what sensible men and women can see in stamp collecting, and it is only when you rub shoulders with such an enthusiast as my friend and spend an evening with him that you begin to feel that there is something in it, though you may own to a feeling of despair that you could ever reach to his depth of knowledge concerning these cancelled, useless-looking bits of coloured paper.

What precision, cleanliness, and care are displayed in this collection! On separate sheets of plate-sunk, thick paper, ruled quadrillé, and protected with Japanese tissue paper, his very special specimens were mounted. With great pride I was invited to admire a collection of the first postage stamps used (the black penny), and with a strong magnifying glass my attention was drawn to the differences in the impressions. There were early impressions, while others later showed signs of the engraving being worn and were not intensely black. These latter were, singular to say, worth more than the lighter and sharper copies, as they were

more scarce. He had a "block" of twelve of these on an "original," which he told me he would not take any money for.

Personally, whenever I look at old stamps, my mind wanders to the possible messages of love, hatred, or the letters they may have carried to those old-time recipients.

Fancy an old lady in the early forties, say three years after Queen Victoria came to the throne, receiving one of these penny stamps on her letter, and then think of this old gentleman (who perhaps was not then in his teens) collecting these labels nowadays and wishing his mother had not thrown so many into the waste-paper basket.

My reverie was broken by my friend's voice.

"Now here are some of the old blues. These are very interesting. What do you suppose that block of four is worth now?"

I owned my ignorance.

"Well, you see they are a beautiful blue and are in 'mint' state, that is, unused, and they have no white lines over the value or under 'Postage' like these later ones. Well, I may over-value them perhaps, but I would not take fifty pounds for them."

"What!" I said. "For those four two-pennies?"

"Yes; you see they are in beautiful condition and look as if just issued. I found those in an old book of my grandmother's. They had been shut between the leaves, and this had kept them flat and clean."

As he tenderly lifted out several sheets

from the shallow drawer of the specially made cabinet, I noticed a sheet of curious-looking stamps — white cameos on blue grounds.

"Oh, those! Yes, they are fine; they are what we philatelists call 'ivory heads.' These are all 'penny reds,' the same design as the black stamp, but printed in red. It is a beautiful bit of work, mind you. This line-engraving is just perfection."

"But what makes the 'ivory heads'?"

"Well, authorities are disagreed; but it is generally conceded that some chemical action between the printing ink and the paper causes it. The stamp, as you see, is printed in red, but on the reverse side the chemical in the paper has caused it to turn blue and leave the outline of the head in a white silhouette. These have been selected from some thousands."

He was turning over several loose sheets as he spoke, and then selected one.

"Now, here are some fine specimens of Plate 6 of the twopenny blue. You do not see any difference between these and those on that sheet, do you?"

He handed me a magnifying glass and two sheets. To me the stamps seemed identical, and I said so.

He then pointed out that the white line under the word "Postage" was thinner than in the others, and that the watermark was a much larger and different-shaped crown from that of the previous issue, and that these differences made these cancelled stamps worth nearly a pound each, while the others were worth only about two shillings each.

"Now, here are the penny reds, arranged in plate numbers," said he.

"What does that mean?" I asked.

"All these stamps, starting with Plate 71, have the plate number engraved in the ornamentation at the sides. You can only see it with a strong glass. You see I have all the plates represented from 71 to 225, except one, and that one is No. 77. There is a blank for it."

"Can't you get that one?" I asked.

"No, and I would give a good deal for it."

"Perhaps it doesn't exist."

"Oh, yes, it does. There is a copy in the Tapling Collection in the British Museum. Last time I was in London I went there specially to look at it, to feast my eyes on it, and to be able to say I had seen it."

"Do any other stamps besides this old penny one have plate numbers?"

"All the British stamps until the issue of 1880 had plate numbers, although some of the sixpenny and one shilling printings, as late as 1883, of the old issue had the number."

He opened another drawer, and after a

little hunting through some sheets, found the one he was looking for.

"Now there is a fourpenny issued in 1880. It is numbered Plate 17. That stamp is no used and is worth now over a sovereign. That is good interest for fourpence in twenty eight years, isn't it?"

I said I wished I could invest at the same rate.

"These stamps are 'surface-printed,' and, of course, I collect all kinds, but the old line-engraved issues are my particular weakness."

"Do you collect stamps of other countries?"

The old gentleman got up and unlocked a bookcase and showed me several volumes

"All countries have an interest for me. Some of them require a lot of study and following up. Some of the varieties are very intricate and some are trivial. After the late Boer War the stamps of the Transvaal and Orange River Colony went up tremendously in price."

"Why?" I asked.

"There was a craze for them. Then what we call 'errors' in printing were discovered and the same halfpenny stamp of the Orange River Colony with the '½d.' in smaller type brought twenty times more than the other. To-day this cancelled stamp is worth about thirty shillings. An unused penny with the 'V.R.I.' on it and the '½d.' omitted is worth five pounds."

"That seems astonishing," I said.

"Oh, that is nothing. As a speculation there is plenty of money to be made out of stamps, if you only knew the right ones to buy. There are many stamps in issue to-day that in another five or ten years will yield several hundred per cent. The trouble is, one cannot foresee which they are."

"Have you had any experience of your own?"

"I was out in Australia from 1857 to 1860. I took no interest in Philately then, but I had bought the fourpenny rose-coloured stamp of Victoria, issued in 1857, and kept some of them unused, I could sell them now at £5 to £6 each. The unused penny stamp of Queensland, issued in 1860, is now worth £10, and some of the twopenny blue of New South Wales of the same period, cancelled on old letters, would fetch to-day, at auction, £12 each."

"Do you collect with a view of making money on your stamps?"

"No, I do not; but one cannot help occasionally bringing in the money point. I collect from a love for them, and when you once begin to study the different papers used, the different methods of separation, the styles of printing, colouring, and designing, you are led on by degrees until you

d the study of stamps and the incidental knowledge gained of the countries simply trancing.
My old friend had meanwhile opened drawer in his desk and produced a bottle

of "Special," and as I drank his health he said—

"Yes, friend, with good health, I may yet find a complete sheet of the first issue of twopenny blue in mint state."

Foreign Notes

FRANK PHILLIPS

The Turkish Commemorative Issue

ELSEWHERE in this issue of *G.S.W.* five values of a new set of stamps are chronicled; the design is similar to that of the current issue, but the stamps have been lengthened so as to make room for an inscription in Turkish characters above each stamp.

It is extraordinary what diversity of opinion there seems to be amongst continental journals as to what is the real meaning of the inscription; at least the meaning is clear enough, the wording being "Hatiire Meshroutiet," which means "Souvenir of the Constitution"; the difficulty lies in the date. Several journals give "July," the year being given in different papers as "324," "1324," and "1286."

The correct date is, I believe, "10 Məməz 1324," according to the Mohammedan Calendar, which would correspond July 24, 1908, the actual date of the opening of the Constitution.

It is stated that the stamps were issued December 17, the date of the opening of the new Parliament, and also that they could only be used within the Ottoman Empire for one month. Another journal states that they were issued on December 14, and were available on that day only, but I think this rather improbable.

The numbers printed are said to be as follows:—

5 paras	1,000,000
10 "	1,100,000
20 "	2,000,000
1 piastre	1,000,000
2 "	50,000*

Rascally Advertisement

IN *L'Echo de la Timbrologie*, states our contemporary of that name, there appeared some months ago this advertisement:—

"For 6 francs I will send 160 splendid stamps, different, catalogued at over 50 francs in the *catalogue of 1908*.

"The advertiser fulfilled his promise to the very letter, *too* exactly, to be correct, for his method of keeping his word is one that might soon lead him to study prison life from within.

"The gentleman's selection comprised 159 stamps catalogued at 2 or 3 centimes; but the 10th was the 50 c., carmine, of the 1896-1900

* In another journal this figure is given as 30,000.

issue (S.G. Catalogue No. 164), number 119 in Senf's catalogue, where it was listed *last year* at 40 marks, a printer's error for 40 pfennig!

"He had in fact done exactly what he said he would do, but there can be no doubt as to the dishonesty of the man's motives, as he absolutely refused to disgorge the 6 francs when his rubbish was returned to him."

Perhaps next time our readers see the old, old advertisements appearing in so many English papers offering stamps to the catalogue value of many shillings for as many pence, they will remember that the day has not yet arrived when printers and compilers cease to make mistakes. It is virtually impossible to produce *any* book free from printing errors, let alone a catalogue crammed full of figures and tabulated matter, such as that issued by the publishers of this journal.

The New Martinique Stamps

ACCORDING to *Champion's Bulletin* there is to be a complete new set of stamps for the colony of Martinique. Elsewhere in this issue will be found an illustration of new 1, 2, and 4 centimes stamps, showing the head of a native woman, set in a medallion; the same design is to be used for all values up to the 20 centimes. The values from 25 to 75 centimes will show a central design of the "Fort of France," above which will appear the word "POSTE," and below, "MARTINIQUE."

The higher values, the 1, 2, and 5 francs, will be large upright oblong stamps, portraying a figure of a native woman carrying a basket of fruit on her head—almost the design of the current stamps of Indo-China.

The Philatelic Badge Again!

A FEW weeks ago an adventure of a certain philatelist on a long railway journey was related in a certain French journal. The philatelist was for many hours shut up in a railway carriage; naturally he was extremely bored, and endeavoured to chat with a fellow-traveller. The conversation was desultory, as they seemed to have no interests in common; when only a few minutes before reaching his destination the philatelist discovered that his fellow-voyager was also an ardent stamp collector! He profited well of the short time remaining

to take part in a most interesting discussion, and afterwards was full of regret that he had not discovered the hobby of his fellow-passenger earlier.

Our contemporary naturally concludes the story by again bringing up the old idea of a philatelic badge, by means of which stamp collectors might be able to recognize in strangers kindred spirits, somewhat as Free-masons are enabled to find out whether any chance acquaintance be a fellow-mason or not, though in these cases badges are not necessary.

A somewhat similar suggestion is made by a correspondent, whose letter is reproduced below, but his idea of what a badge should be is distinctly new:—

"I am, or more correctly, I was, the founder of an International Exchange Society, free to all. The members of the Society were struck with the idea that it would be a good plan for them to carry some sort of badge of membership, by means of which fellow-members might recognize them. Such a sign is naturally unnecessary in an ordinary club, but it is quite another matter in the case of an international membership, and is of even greater utility to the unattached collector in any part of the world."

"One collector would always be able to tell another. In hotels, on board ship, on the railway, on journeys, in short everywhere where a collector might be, he would be known as a collector to all other collectors, *but the distinguishing badge would pass unnoticed by the world in general.*

"How should a suitable badge be fashioned? A massive piece of jewellery, wrought in gold and silver? Not at all! The majority of people would not care to carry a badge of that sort, often. It must be something quite simple, very inconspicuous, but unmistakable.

"I have had a small pin of peculiar shape

made in yellow metal, to be fastened into the collar of the coat, as illustrated by the diagram.

The ordinary person would not observe the pin, but a philatelist would immediately recognize the wearer as a brother stamp collector and would be able to strike up acquaintance, or while away a weary hour.

"Such a sign would certainly not be objectionable to the majority of collectors, and would very cheap to make."

Berliner Briefmarken-Zeitung

Booklets of Stamps for Switzerland

In Switzerland two kinds of booklets stamps are, or rather were on sale, containing 5 and 10 centimes stamps respectively. It is now announced in *La Revue Philatélique Française* that on January 1 two more kinds of booklets were to be issued, one containing thirty 2 centimes stamps, and the other twelve 25 centimes; they will be sold at the normal value of the stamps they contain viz. the former 60 centimes, and the latter 3 francs. The existing books, containing 5 and 10 centimes stamps, are to be altered so as to each contain thirty stamps.

Quite a new departure will be the ornamentation of the back cover of the booklets with artistic designs. The 2 c. booklet will show a charming engraving of the Federal Palace at Berne; the 5 c. booklet will be ornamented with a view of the Simplon Pass and the entrance to the Simplon Tunnel taken from the village of Brigue (this design has, as a matter of fact, appeared on the booklets for a few months past); the 10 c. booklet will show a pastoral and mountain scene taken in the neighbourhood of Saas-Fée; and lastly, the 25 c. booklet, a fine photographic reproduction of the majestic Rosegg glacier, in the Canton of Grisons.

New Issues and Discoveries

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Canada.—*McKeel's Weekly* some time ago reported the issue of a sheet of 100 of the current 2 c. stamps in an imperforate condition.

We have received the new 50 c. in a deep mauve colour; the design is exactly similar to the current King's Head set.



34

1908. Type 34. Perf. 12.

50 c., deep mauve.

Variety. Imperf.

2 c., carmine.

Congo State.—Messrs. Th. Champion Cie send us two sets of the latest pictorial stamps, each overprinted "CONGO BELGE"; the first was overprinted by hand, and the second by type, or more probably from a plate. The overprints are very similar, the points in which they differ being as follows:—

Handstruck.

(i.) Overprint does not show on back of stamp.

(ii.) Letters "o" have square appearance.

(iii.) Length of overprint varies from about $6\frac{1}{2}$ to $17\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

(iv.) Height of letters slightly under 4 mm.

Typographed.

(i.) Impression of overprint shows clearly on back.

(ii.) Letters "o" more oval.

(iii.) Length always 17 mm.

(iv.) Height exactly $3\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

CONGO BELGE

13

1908. Stamps of 1894 to 1901, centres in black, overprinted with Type 13, in black.
Handstamped, overprint not showing on back; height of letters nearly 4 mm.

51	5	5 c., green.
52	6	10 c., carmine.
53	11	15 c., ochre.
54	7	25 c., blue.
55	12	40 c., green.
56	8	50 c., olive-green.
57	9	1 fr., rose.
58	10	5 fr., lake.

Typographed, impression of overprint showing on back; height of letters $3\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

59	5	5 c., green.
60	6	10 c., carmine.
61	11	15 c., ochre.
62	7	25 c., blue.
63	12	40 c., green.
64	8	50 c., olive-green.
65	9	1 fr., rose.
66	10	5 fr., lake.

PARCEL POST STAMPS. 1908. Stamps of 1898, Types 33 and 34, central design in black, overprinted with Type 13, in black.

A. Handstamped (see heading over No. 51).

121	3	fr. 50 c., vermilion.
122	10	fr., green.

B.	Typographed.
123	3 fr. 50 c., vermilion.
124	10 fr., green.

Danish West Indies.—Two more values of the new set, bearing a portrait of King Frederick III, have been shown to us. They are described below.



13

1908. Type 13. Centre in first colour. Wmk. Crown, Type 4. Perf. 12½, 13.

71a|15 bit, deep brown and mauve.

74|30 " black and claret.

French P.O.'s in China.—In our stock we have found the following varieties hitherto untagologued:—

CHINE

仙六

4

SEPTEMBER, 1902. Type 4 of Indo-China surcharged as Type 4, in black.

Varieties. (i.) "CHINE" omitted.
A 48a|10 c., rose-red.

(ii.) "CHINE" omitted; value in Chinese inverted.

A 48b|2 c., brown on buff.

(iii.) With two values in Chinese, 4 c. and 2 c.

A 48c| 4 c., purple-brown on grey.

(iv.) With two values in Chinese, 5 c. and 20 c.

A 48d| 5 c., pale green.

CHINE

9

1904. Type 4 of Indo-China surcharged similarly to Type 4, but with "CHINE" as Type 9, in black.

Variety. Value, in Chinese, double.

A 75a| 5 c., pale green.

1904-5. Type 6 of Indo-China surcharged as above.

Varieties. (ii.a) "CHINE" inverted, and below Chinese value.

A 86a|20 (c.), red on green.

(iv.a) With "CHINE" only, but inverted.

A 92b| 1 (c.), olive-green.

German Empire.—The Secretary of the Brighton Branch of the Junior Philatelic Society has shown us the 50 pfennig of the current type on white paper; up to now it has been on buff paper.



17

1905-8. Type 17. Wmk. "Lozenges," Type 20. Perf. 14. 138a|50 pf., black and purple ('08).

Martinique.—We have received three values of a new set of stamps from Messrs. Th. Champion et Cie, which we list as follows:—



13

1908. Type 13. Head, name, and value in first colour. Perf. 13½×14.

74| 1 c., purple-brown and red-brown.

75| 2 c. " olive.

76| 4 c. " brown-purple.

Natal.—Mr. W. P. Williams, of Durban, sends us a newspaper cutting in which it is stated that the combined "Postage and Revenue" stamps of all values from 6d. to £1 have been withdrawn from circulation, and are being replaced by separate issues, as follows:—

Postage: 6d., 1s., 2s., 2s. 6d., 5s., 10s., and £1.

Revenue: 6d., 1s., 2s., 2s. 6d.; 5s., 10s., and £1.

Of the "Postage" set only the 2s., 5s., and £1 were on sale on December 10, 1908, the date of our correspondent's letter.

According to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (9, 109), the new 2s. stamp is printed in sheets of 240, comprising four panes of sixty stamps each; the 5s. and £1 are printed in sheets of sixty, in five horizontal rows of twelve stamps each. The plate number is "1" in each case.



31



32

DECEMBER 10, 1908. Types 33 (2s.) and 34 (as Types 31 and 32, but inscribed "POSTAGE — POSTAGE"). Centre in first colour. Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Perf. 14.

- 168 2s., purple and bright blue on blue, C.
- 170 5s., green and red on yellow, C.
- 172 £1, purple and black on red, C.

Queensland.—Mr. A. Orr-Ewing has shown us the 1s. of the current type, with the new Crown and single-lined A watermark.



24



29

1908. Type 24. Wmk. Crown and A, Type 29. Perf. 13 (comb machine).

242 1s., mauve.

Rio de Oro.—We have received a 1 peseta of the 1907 issue, surcharged "15 CENTS." in the latest type.



3



7

1908. Type 3 surcharged with Type 7, in violet.

40a 15 c. on 1 fr., orange-buff.

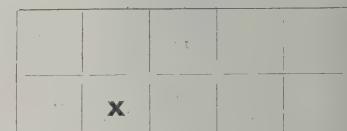
Turkey.—We have received five new stamps issued to commemorate the granting of a Constitution; they are similar to the stamps of the current issue, except that they are made taller to allow a curious imprint to appear above each stamp.



26

1908. Issue commemorative of the granting of a Constitution. Type 26. Perf. 12 to 13½.

205	5 par	, brown-ochre.
206	10	," green.
207	20	," rose-carmine.
208	1 pias.	ultramarine.
209	2	," black.



The curious marks seem to vary a good deal in intensity, but are constant.

Should you think this of interest to the readers of your weekly paper, please print or quote this letter.

Yours faithfully,

R. STANLEY TAYLOR, M.D.

Dec. 20, 1908.

Greece

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

SIR.—We notice in the interesting article by Mr. W. Percy Barnsdall on Greece, in your issue of January 9, several inaccuracies, of which you may be glad to have corrections.

On page 18, with reference to the Olympic Games stamps of 1906, it is stated that they were engraved in *taille-douce* and printed by Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson, and Co., of London. We would refer you to page 196 of *Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal* of April, 1906, in which it is stated that the stamps had been produced by Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co., Ltd. This latter statement is correct.

On page 17 it is stated that the issue of ordinary stamps of 1901 produced by us "appear to be produced by lithography." This is incorrect, as these stamps are printed from steel plates engraved in *taille-douce*, with the exception of the 2, 3, and 5 drachmai, which were lithographed and bronzed in metal in the usual way for labels. The plates were made by us from

original dies produced by another firm (which was unable to carry out the contract), which contract, with the dies (of somewhat inferior workmanship), was handed over to us for execution. At that time some of the dies were strengthened, and some later, as they were not, in our opinion, good enough to work from.

On page 17, referring to the A.M. stamps, also produced by us, the five values of these were all printed from plate in *taille-douce* on paper watermarked as for the ordinary issue, and not lithographed on unwatermarked paper, as stated by your correspondent.

The designs for all issues of stamps for Greece engraved and printed by us have been, we understand, produced in Paris, and we are only responsible for the engraving and printing.

We trust these corrections will be of interest to your readers, and enable you to correct your list accordingly.

We remain, dear sir,

Your obedient servants,

PERKINS BACON AND CO., LTD.

JAMES D. HEATH,
Managing Director.

Philatelic Societies

Junior Philatelic Society Brighton Branch

President : F. J. Melville.

Chairman : W. Mead.

Hon. Sec. : J. Ireland, 103 Western Road, Hove.

Meeting-place : Royal Hotel, Queen's Road.

Meetings : Second and fourth Thursdays, 7 till 10 p.m.

THE sixth meeting of the present session was held on December 31. In the absence of Mr. Mead, the chair was taken by Mr. J. C. Dallimore. A discussion then ensued on "What constitutes a minor variety?" This was opened by Mr. J. Ireland, who read an interesting article for *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* entitled "When is a variety not a variety?" A good deal of interest was taken in the discussion, the chairman pointing out that it seemed quite unnecessary to list all the varieties of overprint in the first issue of Zanzibar as different stamps. Mr. Ireland also read a short paper dealing with the subject and suggested that minor varieties should be kept for the handbook only, as they tended to discourage the general collector, who frequently uses the catalogue as a guide in arranging his collection.

Mr. Bertie Morley showed the current 50 pf. of Germany printed on white paper, hitherto uncatalogued.

Leeds Philatelic Society

President : C. W. Harding.

Meetings : Tuesdays (7.15 p.m.), Room B3, Leeds Institute, Cookridge Street.

Hon. Secretary : T. S. Fraser, 22 Oriental Terrace, Armley, Leeds.

Annual Subscription : 5s.

MR. C. W. HARDING presided over the meeting held on Tuesday, December 15, when Mr. H. Wade gave a display, with notes, of the stamps of Sicily, which were exceptionally fine, and afforded great pleasure to the members who were present.

Mr. W. V. Morten gave an interesting display of Confederate war envelopes. One from "Private Fleming Elliton with Ewell's Division" bore an elaborate design in three colours; others had the following mottoes—

"On, on to the rescue, the Vandals are coming,
Go meet them with bayonet, sabre and spear,
Drive them back to the desolate land they are leaving,
Go, trusting in God, you'll have nothing to fear."

Another—

"Gather around your Country's flag,
Men of the South, the hour has come,
None may falter, none may lag,
March to the sound of the fife and drum."

Also—

"To arms! to arms! quick, be ready,
Think of what the South has been,
Onward, onward, strong and steady,
Drive the Vandals to their den
On, and let the watch-word be,
Country, home, and liberty!"

And another—

"Far better to perish with honour,
Far better to go to the grave,
And better to die as a freeman,
Than live as a Northerner's slave."

The envelopes bore various values of the Confederate stamps cancelled with various and coloured postmarks, and were most interesting from an historical point.

Manchester Philatelic Society

President : W. Dornin Beckton.

Hon. Sec. : G. Fred. H. Gibson, Fairfield, Crumpsall, Manchester.

Meetings : Grand Hotel, Manchester, Weekly : Fridays, at 7 p.m.

At the meeting of the Manchester Philatelic Society yesternight week Mr. W. N. Gray, Vice-President Bradford Philatelic Society, gave a display with notes of the surface-printed stamps of Great Britain from 1855 to 1834. Mr. Gray's collection of British stamps is one of the finest extant, containing practically all the gems, in mint condition. Many of the stamps were shown in a great variety of shades, whilst the mounting and arrangement of the collection left nothing to be desired.

Manchester City News, 19.12.08.

Winnipeg Philatelic Association

President : W. J. Cuthbert.

Sec. : W. E. Hines, 297 Spence Street, Winnipeg.

Meetings : Every Tuesday evening in Room D, Y.M.C.A. Building.

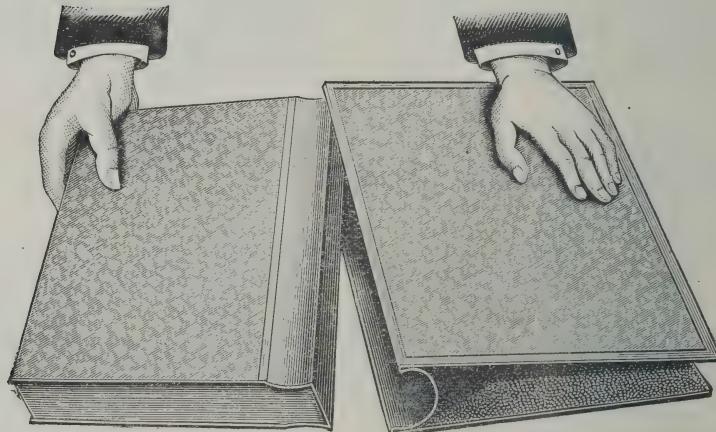
THE Association has both a senior and a junior section and a charter roll of over fifty collectors, many of them British born. The Sales and Exchange Superintendent, Mr. J. Hooper, sends us this information. Foreign correspondents are wanted.

The Sectional Imperial Album

THIS NEW ALBUM IS FULLY DESCRIBED IN A PAMPHLET
WHICH WILL BE SENT POST-FREE ON APPLICATION.

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 $11\frac{5}{8}$ by $10\frac{7}{8}$ in.

Each Page measures $11\frac{1}{8}$ by 8 in.
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Have been specially made and are of the simplest description; you only have to bend back the cover with one hand and remove the leaves with the other. (*See above.*)

These Binders will hold from twenty to nearly two hundred leaves.

When mounting stamps, the spring back cover should be removed and the pages laid out quite flat.

They are in two qualities, as follows :

No. 33.—Handsome covered in marone cloth, bevelled boards, lettered on sides and also in gold on back, with sunk panel on back for insertion of particulars of contents. Price 6/-; post-free, United Kingdom, 6/6; abroad, 7/-.

No. 34.—Superbly half-covered in green Levant Morocco, cloth sides, bevelled boards, gold lettering on back, with sunk panel for contents. Price 15/-; post-free, United Kingdom, 15/6; abroad, 16/-.

STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED,

391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 5
Whole No. 213

JANUARY 30, 1909

VOL. IX.

The Postal Issues of Italy and the Italian Colonies

By L. HANCIAU

(ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.)

(Continued from Vol. VIII, p. 345.)

II. Kingdom of Italy—continued

BEFORE finally bidding farewell to the earlier issues, I would note the fact that I have seen the 15 c., 20 c., 40 c., and 80 c. of the 1855 to 1863 type without the embossed head in the centre, but with an embossed figure "1," and the 5 c. and 40 c. of the same type with an embossed figure "2." I believe these to be *Essays* of a speculative nature.

I have also met with the 15 c. of the issue of June, 1863 (the second transfer of that design), with a trial perforation gauging 11½.

The Italian Government having fully decided to do business with no one but Messrs. De La Rue and Co., of London, made its first contract with that firm on the 16th March, 1863, through the agency of Signor Perazzi, a mining engineer, who had been authorized by the Minister of Finance to arrange this business in London, where he had already been for some time carrying on the negotiations. Under this contract it was arranged that the value of the stamps was to be indicated in the corners, and that they should bear a series of progressive etters. The following table shows the quantity of stamps to be supplied:—

40,000,000	.	.	1 centesimo
28,000,000	.	.	5 centesimi
23,000,000	.	.	10 ,,,
100,000,000	.	.	15 ,,,
2,000,000	.	.	30 ,,,
6,000,000	.	.	40 ,,,
800,000	.	.	60 ,,,
200,000	.	.	2 lire
<hr/>			
200,000,000			

The design of the 1 centesimo stamp was to bear a numeral; the remainder the King's head, with four different ornaments for the different designs, as follows:—

First design for the 5 c. and 2 li.
Second ,,, ,,, 10 c. and 60 c.
Third ,,, ,,, 15 c.
Fourth ,,, ,,, 30 c. and 40 c.

Are we to take this to mean that there were to be only four designs? I cannot say; at any rate the fact remains that the designs of the corners varied in each value.

Signor Perazzi was entrusted with the choice of the colours, and, according to the instructions of the Minister of Finance, the stamps were to be perforated.

The contract with Messrs. De La Rue and Co. was finally signed on the 28th April, 1863, and the designs for the stamps were chosen on the 27th June of the same year. But when the business was at the point of being settled, the Post Office Department had a most unpleasant surprise sprung upon them, namely, that the contractors were unable to promise delivery earlier than January 1st, 1864!

Owing to this miscalculation that accommodating gentleman, M. Matraire, was approached with a view to a further extension of his contract until the end of December, 1863, and this was, as usual, arranged to everybody's satisfaction.

At last, about the middle of October, 1863, the Minister of Finance received from London some specimens of the sets of stamps to be affixed to the Decree that it was proposed to forward to the various post offices. But on comparing these specimens that had been previously received with the proofs, the Department received a second shock, because the authorities had not taken into account the fact that proofs are always more carefully printed, that they are struck direct from the original die, and that they are unguaranteed; all of which things give them a finer appearance. Messrs. De La Rue and Co. were immediately communicated with, and they replied that with regard principally

Sheets exist in which the eight values are arranged as follows :—

10 c.	1 c.	2 li.	5 c.
40 c.	30 c.	60 c.	15 c.

Finally, I have seen the following proofs :



(a) *On white paper.*

1 centesimo, blue, yellow-green, canary yellow, yellow, vermillion, red, carmine, violet, grey, bistre, brown.
 5 centesimi, blue, yellow-green, canary yellow, yellow, orange, vermillion, red, carmine, violet, slate, black, bistre.
 10 " " blue, blue-green, yellow-green, canary yellow, yellow, vermillion, carmine, violet, slate, black, bistre, brown.
 15 " " blue, green yellow-green, canary yellow, yellow, vermillion, carmine, violet, slate, black-blue, black.
 30 " " blue, green, yellow-green, canary yellow, yellow, orange, vermillion, red, carmine, rose, violet, bistre.
 40 " " blue, yellow-green, canary yellow, yellow, vermillion, rose, violet, grey, slate, black-blue, black, bistre.
 60 " " blue, green, olive, canary yellow, yellow, orange, vermillion, rose, black, bistre.
 2 lire, bright blue, pale blue, yellow-green, canary yellow, yellow, vermillion, carmine, violet, slate, bistre, brown.

(b) *Black impression on coloured paper.*

1 centesimo on deep blue, green, yellow-green, yellow, buff, rose, grey.
 5 centesimi on deep blue, green, yellow, buff, rose, lilac.

10 centesimi on deep blue, yellow-green, buff, rose.
 15 " " deep blue, green, yellow, rose.
 30 " " deep blue, green, yellow, deep yellow, rose, lilac.

40 " " deep blue, yellow-green, yellow, buff, rose.

60 centesimi on deep blue, green, deep yellow, straw, rose.
 2 lire on deep blue, green, yellow, buff, salmon, rose.

(c) *Coloured impression on coloured paper.*

15 centesimi (without head), rose on yellow.
 About the same period, Mr. Wentz, of Bologna, had prepared a design, which was not sent in, as the Postal Authorities had already made their choice. It shows the profile of the King to left in an oval; the rectangular frame is inscribed "FRANCO BOLLO" on the left, "ITALIANO" on the right, "POSTALE" at the top, "C. QUINDICI" at the bottom; in the four corners is the value in figures in medallions; all the inscriptions, etc., in white on coloured ground; in each of the four spandrels are the letters "V. E." (Victor Emmanuel) in a monogram.

15 centesimi, blue, yellow, green, on glazed white card.

There is yet another set of essays (they all come in sets now), composed of eight values, all showing an embossed head of Victor Emmanuel II to the left; except in the case of the 1 centesimo, which is not embossed, and which bears a large numeral "1" in a fancy oval frame in the centre. Inscription "POST ITALIANE" on all.

The stamps are printed in colour on white paper, or in black on coloured paper.

(a) *White paper.*

1 c., 30 c.	5 c., 40 c.	10 c., 60 c.	15 c., 2 li.
blue, green, yellow, citron,	orange, vermillion, violet,	slate-grey,	

(b) Black impression on coloured paper.

1 c.,	30 c.	}
5 c.,	40 c.	
10 c.,	60 c.	

15 c., 2 li. on blue, green, yellow, rose.

This uniformity of the colours of the eight values indicates the probability of their being printed simultaneously.

The author of the above essays was M. Ronchi, of Bologna.



(To be continued.)

The Stamps of some of the Native States of India

By E. B. EVANS

(Continued from Vol. VIII, p. 409.)

Poonch

I COPY the following interesting description and history of this State from some Notes by Captain S. H. Godfrey, published in *The Philatelic Journal of India* for April, 1899:—

"The Himalayan country known by the name of its chief town Poonch is bordered, generally speaking, by the watershed of the Jhelum river on the North, British territory belonging to the Abbottabad and Rawal Pindi charges on the West, the Pir Panjal range, which separates it from the Kashmir valley, on the East, and Jammu territory on the South. From the lower spurs of its pine-clad hills the city looks down over the delta formed by the Poonch and Sooran rivers as they unite to send down the waters which further down, where they join the Jhelum, are the favourite haunt of the Indian fisherman. The exact position will be found at Lat. 33° 45' and Long. 74° 8'.

"The early history of the Alpine valleys over which Raja Baldeo Singh now rules is difficult to trace. The ebb and flow of foreign conquest has affected the secluded villages of the lower Himalayas little less than the richer plains to which their valleys lead. Ancient ruins exist on the

Haji Pir, which are popularly ascribed to the Pandavas, and are of undoubtedly Hindu origin. Buddhist remains are traceable in many nooks. Moghul Emperors have left memorials of their sway in the Muhammadan arches of almost forgotten serais. The population is composed of followers of the leading religions of India, Hinduism and Islam, and represents the majority of the caste and sects of both.

"The present organisation of the chieftainship is, however, of modern origin. Three Dogra Rajput brothers obtained from the Lion of the Panjab a grant of certain submontane tracts of his dominions, and rapidly consolidated their power in them. Treaties with the British Government confirmed their possessions, and while the elder branch of the family, the descendants of Gulab Singh, still rule over Jammu and Kashmir, the chief feudatory State of Poonch was assigned to Raja Dhian Singh, and descended to Moti Singh, and his son, the present ruler, Raja Baldeo Singh. The Chief of Poonch is therefore a first cousin of the ruling family of Jammu and Kashmir.

"Poonch has some local name for the quality of its rice and ghi, both of which are exported to the Panjab along roads which present considerable natural difficulties to both traders and travellers. The means of communication have, however, of

late years undergone improvement, and traffic by the Kahuta and Kashmir roads has increased considerably.

The chief interest attaching to the Poonch stamps is perhaps derived from two facts. They were issued to meet real necessities of improved communications with the Panjab and the Jammu and Kashmir State, and they were evidently not employed for speculative purposes. When Raja Moti Singh first ascended the *gadi*, special messengers used to be employed to carry his correspondence between his capital and Jammu, and another line of runners conveyed official and private papers from the central offices to the three Tahsils or administrative subdivisions of Poonch. As correspondence increased with the development of trade the weekly *dâk* was altered to a delivery every other day, and it was decided that Raja Moti Singh should have a branch office of his postal system at Kahuta in the Panjab. A set of four stamps were cut in Srinagar in Sambat 1937 (1882 A.D.*). The dies bore the following values, four annas, two annas, one anna, and half an anna. Subsequently, on the introduction of post cards into British India, a quarter anna stamp had to be added for use on the British post cards issuing from and to Poonch. This die came into operation in Sambat 1942 (1886 A.D.*).

Captain Stuart H. Godfrey was *Assistant Resident* in Kashmir at this time, and was therefore in an exceptionally good position to obtain information regarding the neighbouring State of Poonch. It was due to his initiative that the five dies mentioned above, and the die of the obliterating stamp last in use, were defaced a few months later, as will be related in due course.

From an article in the same magazine for January, 1898, we learn that the Raja, while the State Post Office was in operation, "levied on all letters from British India for delivery in Poonch territory a sum equal to the amount prepaid in Indian postage stamps." Probably Poonch stamps were used to denote postage to be collected upon such letters, as well as to prepay postage upon those originating within the State.

As in Kashmir, letters going beyond the borders of the State required prepayment both in the local and in British Indian stamps. This was not, I think, the case in the majority of these Native States; there was (and is) more usually a British Post Office as well as a native one, the latter dealing solely with local correspondence, and the former taking charge from the commencement of all letters going outside the State. The Post Office of Poonch appears to have dealt with all correspondence, both internal and external, and thus the Office and its stamps hold a higher position than those which were purely local,

* These dates were afterwards given correctly as "1880" and "1885," the Sambat era commencing fifty-seven years before the Christian; it was also discovered later that there were earlier stamps than any of these.

even though the stamps only prepaid the local portion of the postage. I gather also from Captain Godfrey's article that there was an arrangement under which letters between Kashmir and Poonch were franked throughout both the territories by the stamps of the State in which they were posted.

Before dealing with the more recent discoveries of collectors in India, which have taught us so much about the earlier issues of Poonch, it may be well to take a glance at the philatelic history of the stamps, a summary of which will enable us to account for some of the errors which crept into the catalogues, and may also give us some idea of the order in which the various coloured papers were first used.

The earliest notice I can find is in *The Philatelic Record* of October, 1884, in which reference is made, under "Jammu and Kashmir," to a stamp printed in *vermilion* on very thin "native" paper, and so heavily obliterated as to be undecipherable. In reference to the paper, I should add that it is described as similar to that of the *1 a., green*, of Kashmir, issue of 1883, etc., which is there chronicled as "on extremely thin native paper"; no doubt the thin, yellowish wove, which is not now described as "native."

In the following month this and another stamp of the same colour, but different design, were correctly assigned to Poonch. And in December appeared the following illustrations, some of the details of which



are no doubt entirely imaginary, and were probably reproduced from sketches supplied to the engraver and not from the originals, which were to a large extent illegible.

The stamps had been submitted to M. Rodet, of Paris, the only authority on oriental inscriptions at that time accessible to European collectors. By comparison of two or more copies of each M. Rodet was able to make out that the inscriptions on No. 1 read *Dâk-tîkat riyasât Poonch* ("Postage stamp of the State of Poonch"), with the date "1933," in Devanagari in the outer square frame, and in Urdu in the circular band. He added: "As regards the value, this must be in the central portion of the stamp, but it is impossible for me to decipher it." The result of this was that no attempt was made to reproduce in the illustration the unknown value, and the

engraver inserted a flower or star in the centre, perhaps out of his own head. Another result was that, when the 1 pice stamp of similar design made its appearance later on, most of us took it for granted that this was the stamp of unknown value, illegible specimens of which had turned up previously; and, having made this first mistake, we were bound to conclude that the 1 pice, supposed (as we now know correctly) to have been issued in 1885 or 1886, had really come out in 1884. I may add, as a further excuse for our mistake, that no further copies of the earlier stamp were recorded until 1899, and it was not till then that its real value was discovered.

A still more curious mistake was made in the second illustration. M. Rodet made out the value of the stamp to be "quarter anna," and I think he must have improved the illegible characters in the right centre of the lower part into those for *pao* (=quarter), which are quite clear in the illustration, whereas the stamp can only have been the "half anna" of the same size and design. We thus got a supposed $\frac{1}{4}$ a. of the design of the higher values, which we thought was superseded by the 1 pice of the other design.

In February, 1885, *The Ph. Record* chronicled a set of four values, which had been received direct from the Postmaster of Poonch. These were the $\frac{1}{2}$ a., 1 a., 2 a., and 4 a., all of the same design, differing from one another only in size and in the characters denoting the values; M. Rodet had no difficulty with these and he found them all to be dated "1937" (=A.D. 1880). He added: "In so far as I was able to decipher the stamps previously received from Poonch, they were dated 1933=1876 A.D." But in his he must have been mistaken so far as his *quarter anna* stamp of our second illustration was concerned, for we know of no stamp of that type dated "1933," and in my case he was unable to speak with absolute certainty about the dates on the stamps previously received. Of the stamps chronicled in February, 1885, the $\frac{1}{2}$ a. was described as "on white laid *bâtonné* paper, ungummed" and the other three values as "on yellow *bâtonné* paper, gummed"; the latter was probably the paper now described as "white toned wove *bâtonné*," the only variety that I have ever seen with gum.

In the same year I obtained a few specimens of the Poonch stamps, also direct from the Postmaster, whose letter enclosing them was dated "15.4.85." Curiously enough, all the postage stamps I received were varieties which have since turned out to be scarce, but they can hardly have been printed specially for me, as they were very few in number and evidently cut from sheets. There were ten copies of the $\frac{1}{2}$ a., nine each of the 1 a. and 2 a., and eight of the 4 a.

The $\frac{1}{2}$ a., 2 a., and 4 a. were on *very thick bluish laid* paper, and the 1 a. on *yellowish, or toned, white wove*. I have never seen any other copies on this *thick bluish laid*, and the wove paper, without any lines in it, seems to be that which was used for the earlier stamps, those dated "1933."

I may add that the Postmaster's letter was written on a bright *yellow laid* paper, similar to that on which the stamps are also found. Besides the postage stamps he sent two 8 a. fiscals, each impressed upon a half-sheet of foolscap paper. The letter bore a pair of 2 a. stamps which I believe to be also on the wove paper, slightly toned.

Le Timbre-Poste for March, 1885, which would have appeared about the same date as *The Ph. Record* for February, contains illustrations of the same series of four values, with a list of varieties received from Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, as follows:—

$\frac{1}{2}$ a.	anna, red on white wove.
1 "	blue , , ,
1 "	red on saffron wove.
2 "	, , , ,
4 "	, , , ,

Now Messrs. Stanley Gibbons were at this time joint publishers of *The Ph. Record* with Messrs. Pemberton, Wilson, and Co., and the question arises whether any of the stamps sent to the editor of *Le T.-P.* were the same as those seen by the editor of *The Ph. Record*. The 1 a., *blue*, in which I have no faith at all, was evidently not seen by the latter; I should suspect it to be an imitation of some kind, or possibly a proof. The $\frac{1}{2}$ a. described in *Le T.-P.* cannot well have been that on *white laid bâtonné*, but it is possible that the *saffron wove*, always afterwards catalogued by Moens as *saffron wove bâtonné*, was the same as the "*yellow bâtonné*" of *The Ph. Record*. The difficulty is that the stamps on this paper are described as "gummed," and, as I have already stated, the only Poonch stamps that I have ever seen unused with gum are those upon the *yellowish or toned wove bâtonné* paper. I have both $\frac{1}{2}$ a. and 2 a. in this condition, as well as all four values on the same paper without gum. The paper is distinctly *toned*, and might perhaps have been described as "yellow," but I think the "*saffron*" (M. Moens gives the same name to the *yellow laid*) must have been a different paper altogether.

In August, 1885, *Le T.-P.* listed the 1 a. and 2 a. on *white wove bâtonné* (no doubt the *toned* paper), and *The Ph. Record* added the 1 a. and 4 a. on *white laid bâtonné*, and the 2 a. on *yellow wove bâtonné, tête-bêche*. The last I believe was the real *yellow* paper, as there is a pair in the Tapling Collection with one stamp sideways.

In the course of 1886 *Le Timbre-Poste* chronicled the following :—

- $\frac{1}{2}$ a. on saffron wove (*bâtonné?*).
- $\frac{1}{2}$ a. on saffron laid.
- $\frac{1}{2}$ a. on buff wove *bâtonné*.
- 1 a. on saffron laid.
- 2 a. on white laid *bâtonné*.
- 4 a. on white laid.
- 4 a. on buff wove *bâtonné*.

In May, 1887, the same journal first described the $\frac{1}{4}$ anna stamp, about the actual value of which there was afterwards some discussion ; the value being apparently expressed as "one pie," whereas it should be "one pice" (= 3 pies), and the latter was found to be the price at which it was sold at the Post Office. The stamp was chronicled as upon "white laid" paper, but I think this must have been *white laid bâtonné*, as I have never seen this value upon ordinary *white laid* paper ; the mistake, if it be a mistake, is a curious one to have occurred, as at least one complete sheet of the stamp was received, which was stated to contain several inverted impressions. In the same number the $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, 2, and 4 annas were listed upon "pale green laid" paper.

In September, 1887, *The Ph. Record* described some stamps received direct in a letter dated 29th July ; these were the $\frac{1}{4}$ anna on *blue wove bâtonné*, the $\frac{1}{2}$ anna on *yellow laid*, the 1 anna on *green wove bâtonné*, and the 2 a. and 4 a. on *yellow wove bâtonné*, showing a very mixed stock of papers. *Le T.-P.* of November added the 2 a. on *thick white laid*, and in December we were told that Messrs. Stanley Gibbons had received the $\frac{1}{2}$ a. and 2 a. on *green laid bâtonné*. I believe the word "*bâtonné*" to be an error, and that the stamps were really those upon thin *laid* paper.

The 2 annas on what is catalogued as "*Lavender wove bâtonné paper*" is chronicled in *Le T.-P.* for January, 1888, where the paper is described as "white strongly blued." Early in this year the "*aniline rose*" ink seems to have come into use, as *The Ph. Record* for March chronicles the $\frac{1}{2}$ a. in *pink* on "white laid *bâtonné*." Later on in the same year all five values were received in *black*, on the same paper, and described as for Official use. We thus see the *white laid bâtonné* paper again in use, after most of the coloured ones had made their appearance.

In the latter part of 1890 the $\frac{1}{4}$ a., $\frac{1}{2}$ a., and 2 a. were noted in *black* on *yellowish wove bâtonné*, a reappearance of this paper, which on this occasion seems only to have been used for Official stamps ; all the values exist upon it.

Since 1890 a few fresh varieties have been discovered, but I cannot find that anything fresh was obtained from the Post Office of Poonch before January, 1895, when the

stamps ceased to be used for postage. The 1 a. and 4 a. remained in use as fiscals, and there is a variety of each which I shall refer to later, as possibly not printed during the postal period ; the dates at which the other fresh varieties were first noted are no guide to their dates of issue, being for the most part later than the date at which the printing of the stamps is known to have ceased, the dies having been handed over to Captain Godfrey.

The details I have given above seem sufficient to show the difficulty, I may almost say the impossibility, of arranging the varieties of paper in any chronological order that can be considered even approximately correct. Certainly the earlier papers appear to have been *white* or *yellowish*, but from 1885 coloured and white papers must have been used indiscriminately. The quality of the paper (*laid*, *wove*, *bâtonné*, etc.) was, naturally, of no consequence, but as a rule it was *thin*, as better suited for adhesive stamps than the thick papers on which specimens are known to exist.

Some very important discoveries were made, in India, at the end of 1898, or early in 1899, when specimens were found (and properly identified) of what was no doubt the first stamp issued in Poonch. This was the stamp which so puzzled collectors in 1884, and which was afterwards confused with the 1 pice stamp of 1885, through our having no clear copies of the early stamp with which to compare those of the same design which became common later. At about the same time proofs were found of early 1 a. and $\frac{1}{2}$ a. stamps, of similar design to the 1 pice, but of oblong shape instead of square, which were at first supposed never to have been actually issued ; used copies of the $\frac{1}{2}$ anna have since been discovered, but the 1 anna is still known only as a proof. All these were fully described in *The Philatelic Journal of India*, to which I am indebted for all the information I am able to give relating to the first two issues.

Issue of 1876.

1. Square stamp, as shown in the annexed illustration (which represents the *one pice* stamp of later date). In the outer frame is an inscription in Devanagri characters, reading *Muhr Tikat Riasat Poonch Samvat 1933*; within this is a circular band bearing an inscription to the same effect in Arabic characters, meaning in both cases "Postage Stamp of the State of Poonch, Samvat (year) 1933." In the centre is a small circle bearing the value, "6 pies" in the stamp we are now considering. The word *pie* is denoted by the character resem-



blung a hook, with three dots below it, and the larger character at the left of it resembling a much-deformed letter "S"; the remaining characters in the centre of the illustration denote the word *ek*, meaning "one," in the 6 pies stamp they are replaced by a single character, an Arabic figure 6, resembling a "7" with the top curved upwards. The whole stamp is rather larger than the 1 pice, but it is necessary to see the centre of the stamp clearly in closely cut specimens to distinguish the one from the other with certainty.

Handstamped (as are all the stamps of Poonch) upon *yellowish white*, wove paper, of roughish texture and surface.

6 pies (=½ a.), red.

The Samvat era commenced fifty-seven years before the Christian, and the date on all the varieties of this design is in Devanagri characters at the left side of the outer frame and in Arabic at the right of the circular or oval band.

2. Similar design, but oblong, with the same inscriptions and date; value in the centre "one anna." Characters for *ek* as on the 1 pice, with characters for *ana* above the curved horizontal character (*ana* is represented by a vertical stroke, and at left of it

a horizontal stroke with the right-hand end turned up and the left-hand end turned down, and a dot over the second stroke, as may be seen in the ½, 1, 2, and 4 annas of 1880). No specimens of this *one anna* stamp have been found, and it is doubtful whether it was ever issued; the die for it was evidently engraved at the same time as that of the 6 pies.

1 anna (?).

* * *

Issue of 1879.

Similar design to that of the one anna described above, but dated "1936" (=1879), and having the value in the centre *nim ana* (=half anna). The characters for *nim* are those that accompany the characters for *ana* on the ½ a. of 1880. The centre of this stamp is of transverse oval shape, and the inscribed band is distinctly oval instead of circular.

This was at first known only by a proof impression, but a few used copies have since been discovered, all, I believe, on the *yellowish* common paper of the 6 pies of 1876.

½ anna, red.

* * *

(To be continued.)

A History of the Post Office and the Stamps of Malta

By LIEUT. W. R. GATT, Royal Malta Artillery

(Continued from Vol. VIII, p. 415.)

English Stamps used in Malta

THE British Post Office at Malta first issued stamps in September, 1857, previous to which date foreign correspondence was prepaid in money or postage collected on delivery. There are no records whatever as to the various stamps issued, but the list has been compiled from postmarked copies in English specialized collections, and may be taken as complete.

It will be noticed that nearly all the English stamps issued between 1855 and 1885 may be found with the Malta postmark, the chief exceptions being the £1 and £5 values.

The postmarks used for the cancellation of these stamps were the "M" (two sizes), "A25" (round and oval), and the circular dated postmark; the last two always together, and either of them may be found obliterating the stamp.

It is to be regretted that many of the earlier issues have been spoiled through having been pinned to the cover. This may very well be explained by the following paragraph taken from No. 714 of *Mekeel's Weekly*

Stamp News, of America, which I reproduce here for what it is worth :—

"When postage stamps first came into use," said a veteran postal clerk, "the public did not know how to handle them. You remember how, when tea and coffee first appeared among us, the people fried the tea leaves and the coffee berries and served them with salt and pepper? Well, the people treated their stamps as absurdly in 1854. Some folks would put the stamps inside their letters, out of sight. Here is the official notice that we issued to stop that practice :—

"The stamps upon all letters and packages must be affixed on the outside thereof and above the address thereon."

He put back this bulletin and drew forth another one.

"People would pin the stamps on their letters, instead of gumming them," he said, "and when they did gum them they would not do it right. Hence this second bulletin," and he read—

"Persons posting letters should affix the requisite number of stamps previous to depositing them in the letter receivers, as when posted in a damp state the stamps are liable to rub off, and thereby cause the letters to be treated as unpaid. Do not pin the stamps."

* * *

The following tables show the various issues of British stamps with plate numbers that were used in Malta prior to the regular set of 1885; the dates are those at which the stamps were issued in Great Britain, and not those at which they first began to perform service in Malta.

YEAR OF ISSUE	VALUE	COLOUR	WMK. AND PERF.	POST-MARK USED	REMARKS
1857	1d.	red-brown	L.C. 14	M & A 25	various shades
"	2d.	blue	S.C. 16	"	"
1858	2d.	"	L.C. 14	M	Plate 7
1857	4d.	rose	S.G. 14	M	Plate 1
"	6d.	lilac	Embl. 14	M	Plate 1
1870	1s.	green	M	M	Plate 1
"	2d.	rose-red	"	A 25	All plates except 1, 3, 4, 6, 15
1864-80	1d.	"	L.C. 14	"	All plates, except 78, 83, 91, 106, 132, 165, 189, 194, 200, 204, 207, 208, 209, 211, 214, 217, 218, 222, 223, 224, 225
1858-79	2d.	blue	L.C. 14	"	All plates
1875	2½d.	lilac-rose	Anchor 14	"	"
1876	2½d.	"	Orb 14	"	"
1880	2d.	blue	"	"	"
1881	2d.	"	Crown 14	"	"
1862	3d.	carmine	Embl. 14	"	Plate 2
1865	3d.	rose	"	"	Plate 4
1867-76	3d.	"	Spray 14	"	All plates
1881	3d.	"	Crown 14	"	"
1883	3d.	lilac	"	"	Plate 21
1855	4d.	carmine	S.G. 14	"	On white and on blue paper
1856	4d.	rose-carmine	L.G. 14	"	"
1862	4d.	red	L.G. 14	"	Plates 3 and 4
1865-75	4d.	dull vermilion	L.G. 14	"	Plates 7 to 15
1877-80	4d.	sage-green	L.G. 14	"	Plates 15, 16
1880	4d.	grey-brown	L.G. 14	"	Plate 17
1881	4d.	grey-brown	Crown 14	"	" 17, 18
1856	6d.	lilac	Emblems 14	"	Plates 3, 4, 5, 6
1862-64	6d.	"	No wmk. 14	"	Plate 5

NOTE.—This stamp was commonly known as the "Maltese Sixpence" of Great Britain. The following explanation is taken from the *Stamp Collector's Monthly*, November, 1891, p. 199:—

"By an oversight, while plate 5 of Great Britain, 6d., lilac, 1865, was in use, some sheets were printed on unwatermarked paper and included in a supply sent to Malta, where British stamps were then used for correspondence beyond the limits of the island. This circumstance has gained for this variety (which is a 'Rara Avis,' as a British stamp) the name of 'Maltese Sixpence.'"

* This account seems to have been copied from *The Postage and Telegraph Stamps of Great Britain*, by F. A. Philbrick and W. A. S. Westoby. The story is now believed to be without foundation; it is said that impressions of Plate 5 of the 6d. (supposed to have been issued in Malta) exist upon paper which is somewhat thicker than usual and in which the watermark is almost invisible. I am not aware that a single copy upon really unwatermarked paper is known to exist, and the variety is not included in the modern catalogues.—E. B. E.

YEAR OF ISSUE	VALUE	COLOUR	WMK. AND PERF.	POST-MARK USED	REMARKS
1867	6d.	lilac	Spray 14	A 25	Plates 6, 8, 9
1872	6d.	pale buff	"	"	" 11, 12
1872	6d.	deep "	"	"	Plate 12
1874	6d.	grey "	"	"	All plates
1881	6d.	"	Crown 14	"	Plates 17, 18
1876	8d.	orange	L.G. 14	"	"
1862	9d.	bistre	Emblems 14	"	Plate 2. Various shades
1867	1d.	red-brown	Spray 14	"	Plate 1. Various shades
1862-65	1/-	green	Embl. 14	"	Plates 1, 2, 4
1867-77	1/-	"	Spray 14	"	All plates
1880	1/-	orange-brown	"	"	Plate 13
1881-83	1/-	orange-brown	Crown 14	"	" 13, 14
1867	2/-	blue	Spray	"	"
1880	2/-	brown	"	"	"
1867	5/-	rose	Malt. Cross	"	Plates 1, 2
1882	5/-	"	Anchor	"	Pl. 4 on bluish
1884	5/-	"	Malt. Cross	"	"
1880	½d.	dark green	Crown 14	"	"
1880	½d.	dark green	"	"	"
1884	½d.	pale green	"	"	"
1884	½d.	slate-blue	"	"	Various shades
1880	1d.	Venetian red	"	"	"
1881	1d.	lilac	"	"	14 dots in corners
1881	1d.	"	"	"	" 16 "
1880	2d.	rose	"	"	"
1884	2d.	lilac	"	"	"
1881	5d.	deep indigo	"	"	"
1884	5d.	dull green	"	"	"

The use of British stamps at Malta was discontinued after the 31st December, 1884, when the General Post Office passed to local control in accordance with the following notice:—

"GENERAL POST OFFICE,

"VALLETTA, December 9th, 1884.

"Notice is hereby given that on and from the 1st January, 1885, Postage Stamps of the United Kingdom will be useless for the prepayment of postage on correspondence posted in Malta and Gozo, and that all letters, etc., bearing Imperial Stamps posted after the 31st of December, 1884, will be treated as unpaid and charged on delivery.

"Imperial Postage Stamps, if unused, clean, and in saleable condition, will be purchased at the General Post Office up to the 24th December inclusive at par; but between that date and the 31st of December a charge will be made of the commission indicated at page 16 of the current edition of the *Imperial Post Office Guide*.

"ROGER DUKE."

(To be continued.)

Philatelic Notes and Queries

By E. B. EVANS

Great Britain: Line-engraved Stamps

SINCE my last number was published I have received further evidence of the inexhaustible interest in these stamps, which I then referred, in the shape of a little book, by Mr. F. J. Melville, with the title quoted above. This book, for which I am indebted to Mr. W. H. Peckitt, contains most interesting account of the stamps in question, the method of their manufacture, and the principal varieties to be found in them, and while not trespassing upon the preserves of the most advanced specialists, may well serve as guide to those who are content with what is termed "Limited Specialism," and will carry them quite as far as they need go. A very clear account is given of the processes of production, with illustrations of an original die and of proofs taken in different stages of the engraving; the stamps themselves are fully illustrated, of course, and the book is further adorned with portraits of various personages who had a hand in their creation.

In connection with this same subject I could mention a beautiful reproduction, life-size, of a half-sheet of Plate 9 of the One penny, red, of 1841, which has been sent me by Messrs. C. Nissen and Co. The peculiarity of this plate is that there was a small defect in every impression upon it, produced no doubt from some corresponding defect in the roller, resulting in a kind of blot to the letter "O" of "ONE," which gives the appearance of a "Q." The reproduction is most successful, it has almost the appearance of a real block of 1d., black; it shows admirably the type of the letters in the corners, Mr. Bornefeld's First Alphabet, and the irregular spacing of the stamps on the early plates, which gave so much trouble to Mr. Archer and his perforating machines.

* * *

CART I. of *The American Philatelist*, the Year Book of the American Philatelic Society for 1908, has reached me in the form of an unusually portly volume, containing, in addition to a very full report of the proceedings of the Annual Meeting, various papers of more permanent philatelic interest. Notable amongst these is an article upon "The Postage Stamps of Egypt," by the President of the Society, Mr. N. Luff, in which reference is made to a variety in the first issue, the exact nature of which is questioned, viz. the 10 piastres tête-bêche. It is well known that the top and

bottom of the design of each of the values of this issue are not exactly alike, though not intentionally different; there is thus supposed to be a right way up and a wrong way up (of the coloured design, not the overprint), though I believe no one knows which is which, and the ends are so much alike that in making up the plates some of the clichés were placed one way up and some the other, it being a matter of complete indifference, as one position was quite as correct as the other. So far, therefore, as the coloured portion is concerned there were tête-bêche pairs of every value, and none of them could be considered of very great interest. The overprint of Arabic characters, in black, is of course quite another matter; it is the right way up when the loop of the characters in the centre is uppermost, and, if we could only decide which is the correct position of the coloured design, we might say that some of the stamps have the background inverted; but as both positions are correct, the doubtful position is that of the cataloguer of the stamps, who does not know how such varieties ought to be described! As a matter of fact, the 10 piastres, and apparently that value alone, has been found in pairs with the overprint tête-bêche, a cliché of the overprint having evidently been inverted in the forme, and perhaps put right after a small number of sheets had been printed.

In connection with this same country, are we not all of us wrong in describing the stamps of 1872-75 as "lithographed"? The few copies I possess are plainly typographed, indeed in several cases some of the white portions are actually in relief.

* * *

Exhibition and Congress at Manchester

MY readers will not, I am sure, forget that a Philatelic Exhibition, accompanied by a Philatelic Congress, is to be held at Manchester on the 18th, 19th, and 20th of next month, and I hope that the double event will be doubly well attended. The results of the deliberations of the first Philatelic Congress assembled in this country will be looked forward to with great interest. I understand that one of the subjects in the programme is "the Suppression of Unnecessary and Speculative Issues of Postage Stamps," a thorny subject, bristling with difficulties. And yet the necessary treatment of the disease can be described in one word, and that word is "Boycott." Once upon a time there was a "Society for the Suppression

of Speculative Stamps," and it did excellent work so long as it lasted, but disagreement arose as to individual cases, and then of course the "boycott" broke down. Perhaps the Congress may be able to find a better form of treatment or an improved method of applying it.

* * *

Falkland Islands

THE December number of *The West End Philatelist* consists of an article by Mr. B. W. H. Poole upon these islands and their stamps. The Falkland Islands stamps, especially those with the head of Queen Victoria, form a very attractive series; both in neatness and clearness of design and in excellence of execution they are models of what a postage stamp should be, and Mr. Poole shows that there are various little points about them that require close examination. It seems to have been always hitherto assumed by philatelists that stamps printed on paper watermarked Crown and "C C," or Crown and "C A," were printed by Messrs De La Rue and Co., even in cases where the original plates were produced by other firms. In cataloguing the stamps of this colony we have gone further still; the first issue is acknowledged to have been printed by Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson, and Co., and to be perforated between 14 and 14½; the subsequent issues are stated to be printed by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., and (therefore, presumably) to be perf. 14. Mr. Poole points out that all these Queen's Head stamps have the same perforation, and suggests that they were all printed by Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson, and Co., the watermarked paper being supplied by the Crown Agents to whatever firm produced the stamps. I have good authority for stating that such was the case, and that the current stamps alone are the productions of Messrs. De La Rue and Co.

Mr. Poole has, as is his wont, studied these stamps with a good magnifying glass, and has discovered various little dots and defects, some of which it is very difficult to account for. Certain dots which occur in almost identically the same position on every stamp on a sheet, except those in one of the outer rows, are presumably guide marks, made by one impression of the roller on the plate so as to serve as a guide for the placing of the next one; others appear to have a less definite object. But the most peculiar thing of all is that certain defects, found on particular stamps on the sheets of the 4d. value, exist also on the same stamps on the sheets of the 1s., as if the two values were in some way produced from the same plate, a thing that has been supposed to be impossible in the case of line-engraved stamps. Perhaps Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson, and Co. could be persuaded to explain this.

Filipinos

MEKEEL'S WEEKLY of December 5th raises once more the question of the *status* of the labels issued by the insurgents in the Philippines, during the war in 1898. There seems to be no doubt that these stamps were put in circulation; officers in the United States Army state that unused copies in some quantity were found amongst "loot" in the possession of soldiers, who had picked them up in various parts of the islands, and that a few used copies were also seen in similar circumstances. They appear to have been put on sale by the Revolutionary Government, but it is a question whether that Government had any real postal system, and in any case, even if the stamps franked letters to any appreciable extent, they could I think, only be considered as a species of "local," and one would like to know whether the Government that issued them performed any service, or was capable of performing any service in return for the cash received for them.

The most unfortunate argument put forward in their favour is that "they certainly have as much, if not more, right to recognition in a stamp catalogue, as the 10 c., 1873, of the 'Republic of Cuba.'" If I remember right, the "Republic of Cuba," or its only post office at any rate, was situated at that time in the city of New York, and the stamps were never on sale anywhere else. The Filipinos seem to have done a little better than that, and it does not appear that they ever pushed the sale of their stamps among collectors, but this may have been partly because they had no opportunity of doing so, and partly because collectors were not inclined to invest, knowing the very doubtful nature of the things.

* * *

Question Time

A SUGGESTION has been made for enlivening the proceedings at the meetings of one of our leading Philatelic Societies which may lead modest specialists either to avoid the meetings or to practise prevarication. It is proposed that the less advanced members be encouraged to bring their collections with them and call upon the experts present to provide, *impromptu*, information and instruction upon all knotty points connected with the stamps of their favourite countries. A modified form of the proposition is that members should submit their questions in writing on slips of paper, the slips to be passed round and signed or initialled by any one present who is prepared to answer the question on the spot. I believe I can look at this matter quite impartially my own favourite countries are few, few still are the collectors that are interested in them, and I could probably attend Societies

meetings with little or no risk of attack. But in either case, whether it is a matter of examining a collection or replying to a question, I think the unfortunate expert should at least have the privilege of a Cabinet Minister and be given previous notice. Questions might be submitted and circulated at one meeting and answered at the next, or it might be announced in the programme that Mr. X, who specializes in the stamps of Simbuctoo, will be happy (?) to see other collectors interested in that country at the next meeting and to reply to their conundrums. Personally I would much rather have the questions sent me by post and answer them in writing.

* * *

Indian Native States

Charkari.—In January, 1901, I chronicled in the *Monthly Journal* a set of impressions of the stamps of this State, in their normal colours but struck upon *pale blue* wove paper, varieties which have since been catalogued with a certain amount of reserve. Mr. C. J. Phillips has now shown me further specimens of these, together with impressions upon other coloured papers, which it seems certain were not printed for issue, but must be considered proofs or trial impressions of some kind. It is possible that there may have been some idea of distinguishing the various values by the colour of the paper, or they may be mere of the nature of fancy impressions, used to show what the resources of the establishment were capable of producing. I have seen all five values on *pale blue*, *green*, and *buff* papers, and all except the a. on *yellow*. The stamps being struck singly, apparently with a handstamp, double impressions are not infrequent among the regular issue, and most of the varieties on coloured paper exist in similar condition. Of the ordinary $\frac{1}{2}$ a. stamps, on white, I am shown some curious blocks; one consisting of a bit of paper on which are five impressions with a blank space for a sixth, which apparently was not added because there was a small hole in that part of the paper; another is a block of four, with two stamps one way up and the other two the reverse, forming two vertical *tête-bêche* pairs; while another block of four contains one stamp sideways. I do not suggest that such varieties are of very great philatelic interest, with a little ingenuity and a handstamp they could be multiplied indefinitely, but it is well to note their existence. All the above have the old types of figures, and are therefore not very recent productions.

Bhopal.—The *Philatelic Journal of India* for November confirms what I stated last month, on other authority, as to the State

Post Office of Bhopal having ceased to exist, but I find that either the printer or I got the date wrong, it should be "1st of July," not "15th of July." In reference to the date of the first issue of stamps, the Indian journal says: "In 1869 the public were first allowed to send private letters by these messengers on payment of a fee, and in 1877 the fee was made payable by adhesive stamps." It would be interesting to know what is the authority for these dates; I showed last month that 1877 was not correct for the first issue of the stamps, as they were seen in Europe as early as 1876, and I suggested that research on the spot might result in our getting at the real date of their original use.

I quote some further observations from *The Ph. J. of I.*, with most of which I am in full agreement:—

"The series of postage stamps which now become obsolete are, with the exception of Cashmere, by far the most noteworthy of the Indian local issues. They have the distinction of forming the subject of the most successful of our Society's handbooks, and they have been elaborated in the catalogue to an extent which is unusual even in these days of ultra-specialism."

"The two hundred catalogued varieties have not unnaturally given rise to a good deal of criticism and suspicion. They are undoubtedly mainly due to the philatelic demand, but we honestly do not believe a single one was made of malice aforesought."

"Regarding the older types with the new embossing we can state after some personal experience that those native officials who manage the stamp production in native States are usually entirely ignorant of philately and the rules of the game? If a correspondent asks for square stamps and pays for them, why on earth shouldn't we make him some?" is the perfectly natural and genuine attitude of these people. They are, moreover, quite ready to accept as valid for postage any of the stamps thus made to order. Apparently all that a person, who gets a fancy lot, need do to procure them catalogue rank, is to post a certain number to himself. We do not believe that any native issue of any State was speculative, that is to say, made in *anticipation* of a philatelic demand, but we are pretty sure that a large proportion were made solely to satisfy such a demand with purely amiable and unsophisticated intentions."

I am sorry I cannot fully agree with either the beginning or the end of the last paragraph quoted.

Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. have kindly shown me a quantity of Bhopal stamps, including what I hope is the last supply obtainable—in any case, I believe that if any more stock is obtained from the State Post Office or Treasury it may fairly be regarded as consisting of *reprints*.

Among the things shown me I find some varieties that I have not seen before :—

We know of an imitation of the $\frac{1}{2}$ a., Type 7, in twenty-four fresh varieties, printed in *yellow* and in *orange*, but I have hitherto only seen it with the new form of embossing ; I find it now in *orange*, with the old embossing, but no doubt this merely indicates that this variety was of a little earlier date than had previously been supposed.

The latter remark may also apply to the 1 a., *chestnut*, of the type of No. 79, which I find also exists with the old embossing as well as with the new.

The $\frac{1}{4}$ a., "Type 15 again redrawn," as Nos. 142, 143, I find in *olive-green*, with the new embossing.

I have previously seen a few copies of a $\frac{1}{2}$ a., *red*, of Type 16, and I now find the same thing in *black*. These seem to have been made by altering the value on the stone of the $\frac{1}{4}$ a., No. 146, etc., and touching up the inscription a little. The *red* I only know with the new embossing ; that of the *black* is very indistinct, but I think it is the old design.

The 8 a., Type 17, has been again redrawn ; I have only seen two copies, different varieties of type and different from any of those on the earlier sheets. There is a frame to each stamp at top, bottom, and right or left, according as the stamp is in the left or

right hand vertical row, and apparently double frame line round the sheet. The impressions are in very *dark blue*, and the embossing is probably the old.

Finally, and perhaps most important as probably issued variety, I have the $\frac{1}{4}$ a. 1903 on *laid* paper instead of *wove*.

Orcha.—The remarks on the stamps of this State which appeared in *The Philatelic Journal of India*, and afterwards in the magazine, seem to have created a mild sort of sensation ; frivolous persons are saying that a new form of the old problem "To be or not to be?" is presented for solution—"Ought yer or ought yer not?"

* * *

Afghanistan

ACCORDING to a note in *The Ph. J. of India* for December last, the so-called zigzag perforation, or rouletting, of the new issue was also applied to some of the earlier stamps. Sir D. P. Masson has found it on the 1 abasi stamp dated 1310 and on the Registration stamp of 1898 (the colour is not stated in either case). All the stamps so treated appear to come from the Kandahar Post Office, and it is believed that this rouletting can be produced by tearing the paper against the edge of a small-toothed saw. This seems to be the true "percé en scié."

* * *

New Issues and Discoveries

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Bechuanaland Protectorate.—On the authority of *The Postage Stamp, The Philatelic Advertiser* (25, 12.08) lists the overprinted $\frac{1}{2}$ d. in the newer shade of *green*.



83

BECHUANALAND

PROTECTORATE

7

1908. Type 83 of Great Britain overprinted with Type 7, in black.
75a $\frac{1}{2}$ d., yellow-green.

French Somali Coast.—We have lately been shown copies of the 75 c. bicoloured stamp with the centre inverted.



JULY, 1902. Type 2. Centre in first colour. Perf. 12. Error. (ii.) Centre inverted. 25a/75 c., mauve and orange.

Hoi-Hao.—In our stock we have found a large number of varieties which have not been chronicled up to the present. The list is follows, and should come after No. A 33, a :-

HOI HAO

州 環

21

1903-4. Type 4 of Indo-China surcharged as Type 21, in black, but Chinese characters indicate value.

Varieties. (iii.) Chinese value twice.

2 (c.), brown on buff.

5 (c.), pale green.

10 (c.), rose-red.

15 (c.), grey.

20 (c.), red on green.

25 (c.), blue.

25 (c.), black on rose.

30 (c.), cinnamon on drab.

50 (c.), carmine on rose.

(iv.) "HOI HAO" inverted; Chinese value omitted.

1 (c.), black on azure.

(v.) Surcharge inverted.

5 (c.), pale green.

10 (c.), rose-red.

(vi.) Chinese value above "HOI HAO."

10 (c.), rose-red.

(vii.) Two values in Chinese, 4 c. and 2 c.

4 (c.), purple-brown on grey.

Holland.—Messrs. Th. Champion et Cie have sent us the new 15 c., but the colours are not quite the same as those mentioned in our issue of November 28, 1908. This stamp should follow No. 192 in our Catalogue.



12

DECEMBER, 1908. Type 12. Head in first colour. Perf. 12½. 15 c., rosine and indigo-blue.

Mauritius.—A correspondent of *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (16.1.09) states that the 25 c. was issued on multiple paper about December 2, 1908.



36

DECEMBER, 1908. Type 36. Value in second colour. Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A. Perf. 14. 172|25 c., green and carmine on green, C.

Natal.—We are now able to illustrate the new stamps, inscribed "POSTAGE—POSTAGE" (Types 33 and 34), which were described in our last week's issue.

Mr. Oswald March informs *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (16.1.09) that the 5d. was issued on multiple paper on December 19, or earlier.



31



33



34

DECEMBER, 1908. Type 31. Centre in first colour.

Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

15|5d., black and orange, O.

Packhoi.—We have a number of new varieties to add to those already included in our Catalogue.

PACKHOI

仙二

51

1903-4. Type 4 of Indo-China overprinted as Type 51, in black.

Varieties. (i.) Overprint inverted.

A 568a|10 (c.), rose-red.

(ii.) Chinese characters double.

*A 568b|2 (c.), brown on buff.

A 568c|20 (c.), red on green.

A 568d|25 (c.), black on rose.

A 568e|30 (c.), cinnamon on drab.

(iii.) Value in Chinese omitted; "PACKHOI" inverted.

A 568f|1 (c.), black on azure.

A 568g|4 (c.), purple-brown on grey.

Papua.—We have been shown the 2d. of the permanent type perforated 11, instead of 12½, in which perforation it was listed in our issue of December 19, 1908.



6

1908. Type 6. Lithographed. Wmk. Crown and A. Centre in black.

(a) Perf. 11.

27|2d., violet.

Russia.—We have received a supply of the new 7 kopeck stamps, which are of quite a new design. We do not know the size of the sheets, but the stamps are printed in panes of 25, with white margins between the panes. The whole sheet is prepared before printing the stamps by coating it on the surface with thin lines of white varnish; the lines run obliquely in both directions, intersecting so as to form a number of lozenge-shaped figures. We referred to the use of varnish lines on the new stamps in our issue of March 7, 1908.

* This stamp is given as A 568a in the Catalogue; it should be A 568b.

A very curious thing occurred with regard to the varnish bars when we were having the illustration made by a photographic process. Although the bars are nearly invisible on the stamps and are certainly *below* the blue ink used for printing the stamps, yet they appear as blank spaces on the illustration. This phenomenon is probably due to the action of salts of barium, or quinine, contained in the varnish. The rays emanating from such salts would penetrate the blue ink, and would affect the plate, just as would rays of light.

In the illustration below (Type 18), traces of the white lines can be seen running diagonally across the stamp. In the other illustration (Type A) the lines appear in black, owing to the stamp having been photographed through a deep orange screen.



18



A

DECEMBER, 1908. Type 18. New design. Intersecting varnish lines on surface of paper. No wmk. Perf. 14, 14½.

140 | 7 kop., dull blue.

United States. — Our American house forwards us the 5 c. and 8 c. in the new Houdon Washington type, and a 10 c. Special Delivery stamp of new design.



113

DECEMBER, 1908. Type 113. Perf. 12.

451 | 5 c., deep blue.
453 | 8 c., sage-green.



154

SPECIAL DELIVERY STAMP DECEMBER, 1908. Type 154. Perf. 12.

511 | 10 c., green.

Correspondence

The British Post Office

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

DEAR SIR,—You were good enough to show some interest in the cartoon on page 264 of the *Weekly* of October 24, 1908. I bought a book on Saturday, from which I extract the following:—

"Again, some little time after the great public demonstration, August, 1873, the leader of the agitation, Booth, found himself suspended from duty by order of the Controller. It was not that impending dismissal had any terrors for him, but he was determined to avoid if possible the humiliation of it. With his usual readiness he decided to take the bull by the horns in his own fashion. He conceived the idea that unless some such step as he contemplated were taken at once, his dismissal, which he knew had been recommended, would this time be certain. He hurried off to the printers who usually did such work for the movement in those days, but was told the men could not be prevailed on to work after the usual time. Booth said he had a job which would engage them all night, and being told that it was quite impossible, asked to see the men in a body. He came, he saw, he conquered, and the men agreed to stop the night through for the production of a cartoon which had been roughly sketched out. It took three hours to prepare the lithograph-stone, three draughtsmen being simultaneously engaged on parts of the sketch. During the night and early morning four or five thousand

copies were printed off, and by ten o'clock they were being sold like hot cakes in St. Martin's-le-Grand and all over the City. To ensure their sale and circulation they were virtually given away to the street-hawkers, who retailed them at a penny apiece. The first batch was soon exhausted, and before the day was over as many thousands more were sold. The pictorial lampoon had little of artistic merit to recommend it; it was fearfully and wonderfully made; the drawing was vile even for caricature; but the letterpress, the scriptural quotations witty applied, and the illustrations together, told. The broadsheet contained four or five separate illustrations having reference to the recent great procession of postal employés to Cannon Street Hotel, 'in defiance of official threats'; the question of Sunday Labour, hit off by the figure of a portly bishop offering a tract on Sunday observance to an overladen postman; the recent postal petition to Parliament, and cognate matters. Booth, suspended from duty, was represented by a figure on a gibbet, intended as the mental vision in the mind of the official who had ordered it; while disposed about in odd corners of the cartoon was a 'spy-glass,' 'the bullet,' 'ye sack,' labelled 'Post Office persuaders.' It did not bear criticism, but as the work of a single night it was interesting; and, what was more, it had some of the effect intended. The suspended leader was restored to duty the day following."

Yours faithfully,

PLAIN ANCHOR.

January 18, 1909.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

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VOL. IX.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

Griqualand West



Copyright

Earthcolombe's Plan

GRQUALAND, both divisions of which are now incorporated into Cape Colony, takes its name from some tribes of mongrel Hottentot Griquas, who migrated there about the middle of last century, under the leadership of two chiefs named Waterboer and Adam Kok. Later Adam Kok and his followers passed to the strict now known as Griqualand East, situated in the north-east of Cape Colony, in the borders of Natal and Basutoland. It may be news to many that Griqualand East used to have a postage stamp of its own, as it was used in a purely local service private enterprise it is of course not included in Part I of the Catalogue. It is known as the "Mount Currie Express," and

was in use chiefly between 1874 and 1877, prior to the district's annexation to Cape Colony. Full particulars of this interesting issue are given in the London Society's work on Africa (Part II).

The migration of Adam Kok left Waterboer in undisputed possession of Griqualand West, then a desolate region, producing little but scrub and coarse herbage, and worth probably only a few pence an acre. The discovery of diamonds, however, altered these conditions. In 1867 a stone was found in the Hopetown district, south of the Orange River, which was exhibited in the Paris Exhibition of the following year as the "first African diamond."

In 1869 a much larger stone was dis-

covered in the same district and named the "Star of South Africa." It was sold to the Earl of Dudley for about £12,000. Prospecting then began in earnest, especially along the rivers, and though valuable sites at Pniel Kopje and Klipdrift (now Barkly) were found and digging started, it was the discovery of the diamondiferous district in the east of Griqualand that paved the way to the present prominence of the country. Here in a district, twelve miles in circumference, near the confluence of the Modder and Vaal rivers and about twenty-four miles south-east of Pniel, have been opened the four great "pipes," as they are called, of Bultfontein, Du Toits Pan, De Beers, and Kimberley, the last two being now the richest diamond mines in the world. The rush to the diggings and the rapid development of the district called for orderly administration, and in 1871 Waterboer was induced to cede all his sovereign rights to the Cape Government. This entailed boundary disputes between Cape Colony and its neighbours, the South African Republic and Orange River Colony, that with the latter being settled by the payment of £90,000 compensation. A slice was taken from British Bechuanaland and added to the new colony, which then had an area of about 18,000 square miles with purely conventional boundaries, except on the south where the Orange River marked the frontier. The population is roughly about 90,000, and the chief town is Kimberley, the centre of the diamond district, with a fluctuating population of about 30,000. It is well situated, being about 620 miles by rail from Cape Town and 430 from Port Elizabeth. It is a stronghold of British influence in this part of the world, and here was held in 1892 the first South African and International Exhibition. Griqualand West remained a separate colony until October 15, 1880, when it was incorporated with the Cape Colony.

Philatelic History

This is brief and interesting more to the specialist than to the ordinary collector. Between 1871 and 1877 Griqualand West made use of the current Cape of Good Hope stamps without distinguishing overprint, but in the latter year it was decided to issue distinctive stamps. True, in 1874 a provisional was issued at Kimberley during a dearth of penny Cape stamps. It was produced by surcharging the fourpence "1d." in red by means of a pen and ink. Some authorities consider this should be listed under Cape stamps, but it was certainly issued in Griqualand West when a separate colony, so if a general collector is fortunate enough to possess a copy he cannot do better than follow the Catalogue and

commence his collection of Griqualand with this stamp.

The 4d. was the type with the narrow outer frame, and the provisional was only in use till a fresh supply of the ordinary Cape pennies was received.

September, 1874. *Cape stamp surcharged in M in red.*

	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
1d. on 4d., blue	100	0

The first distinctive stamps issued for Griqualand West were the Cape of Good Hope 1d., red, and 4d., blue, overprinted "G.W." in small Roman capitals, $2\frac{1}{2}$ mm. high. These were put on sale in March 1877, the 1d. being without the outer line, and the 4d. the same as in the provision mentioned above.

March, 1877. *Cape stamps overprinted "G. W."*

1d., red (black overprint).	"
4d., blue (red "	"

In the course of the same year six values of Cape stamps, $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., 4d., 6d., 1s., and 5s. were overprinted with "G" alone, and stamps similarly overprinted continued in use till 1880. Several printings were made, and the types of overprint vary considerably; herein lies the attraction for the specialist. A glance at the Catalogue will show that several of the "G's" used are closely alike, and the best plan to follow is that suggested by leading specialists, and adopted in the Catalogue, of dividing the issues into three sections:—

Section I to include stamps on which the "G" measures 4 mm. in height; or more, a Section II to take those on which it is 2 and 3 mm. in height, and much smaller in other respects.

As regards the Cape stamps, the 4d. both types (with or without outer line) were used, the 6d. and 1s. had the outer line, and the remaining values were without outer line; the watermark in all cases was Crown C and the perf. 14.

It is not known how all the overprints were set up, but probably for sheets of 120 made up of two horizontal panes of 60 each; so were certainly produced thus.

As regards Section I, there were two printings, the first in *red* (except on the 1d. stamp, which was in *black*), and the second all in *black*. There are six main types of "G" in the first printing and nine in the second, one of which is the same as one of the first printing. All are more or less right, except three in the second printing which for want of a better description might be called "italic capitals." For those who want a simple collection it will suffice if the following arrangement is adopted, for stamps are expensive:—



G **G**

Cape stamps overprinted in red.

A. *With large upright "G" (eleven varieties) in red.*

	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
½d., grey	5 0	6 0
4d., blue	35 0	7 6
6d., violet	35 0	12 6
1s., green	25 0	8 0
5s., orange	—	10 0

In black.

	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
1d., red	3 0	3 0
4d., blue	40 0	10 0
6d., violet	60 0	12 6

G

A. *With large italic "G" (three varieties) in black.*

	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
1d., red	15 0	15 0
4d., blue	—	45 0
6d., violet	—	50 0

There are not so many varieties of "G" in Section II; in fact, only three, which general collectors may resolve into two, and all *small upright capital* and *small italic capital*. Of the former there are two types, known to specialists as "antique" and ordinary. The first printings contained the "antique" and "italic," and were in red or black, and the later only the ordinary, and all in black. It should be remembered that the 6d. in the later printings should always be the later

mauve shade of the Cape stamp and not the earlier *violet*.

G G G

Cape stamps overprinted in red or black.

A. *With small upright capital "G" (two types).*

	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
½d., grey (red)	7 6	—
½d., " (black)	1 6	1 6
1d., red (,,)	0 9	0 3
4d., blue (red)	—	50 0
4d., " (black)	3 0	0 6
6d., violet (,,)	30 0	15 0
1s., green (,,)	40 0	3 0
5s., orange	—	3 0

B. *With small italic capital "G."*

	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
½d., grey (red)	7 6	—
1d., red (black)	2 0	1 6
4d., blue (red)	—	45 0
4d., " (black)	—	4 0
6d., violet	—	15 0
1s.	—	—

The use of overprinted stamps was discontinued in 1880, and all stocks on hand were returned to Cape Town and redistributed amongst various post offices in Cape Colony and were used as ordinary Cape stamps, and this fact accounts for the overprinted stamps which are found with postmarks of different colonial towns dated from 1881 to 1890.

It is inexpedient in a short article of this description to go more fully into these overprints, but it will repay collectors to study the stamps, for many a variety highly priced in the Catalogue may be picked up cheaply now and then, whilst apart from this the study in itself will prove a very fascinating one.

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Stock Books, and we, therefore, the Prices at which Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., will have pleasure in supplying any of the stamps that may be needed by any of our readers.

Topical Notes

by CHARLES J. PHILLIPS
London and Paris Stamp Auctions

HAVING visited Paris for ten days at Christmas time, and again for four days in the middle of January, I have had a good opportunity of studying the auction market in Paris as compared with London, and perhaps a few notes on this subject may interest such of my readers who buy or sell at the auctions.

First of all I wish to state that in Paris the stamps are better and more accurately described than in any of our London auctions, and the result is that buyers in the country and abroad have more confidence in sending bids to Paris than is the case in London.

Secondly, in Paris the buyer has to pay a tax of 10 per cent *above* the price at which

the stamps are knocked down under the hammer.

The seller of the stamps has to pay a commission to the auctioneers that varies according to the amount and importance of the sale, and according also to the amount that is spent on advertisements, etc. In a big collection, like that of Mr. Koch of Giessen, which has so far realized about £14,000 nett to the owner, the expenses work out at nearly 10 per cent. In a small collection they might be 12½ to 15 per cent.

In Paris all auctions of every kind must be under Government supervision, and such objects as stamps, coins, pictures, furniture, bric-à-brac, etc., are all sold in the Hotel Drouot, Rue Drouot, Paris. In this building, of two floors, there are about twenty sale rooms, and on most afternoons sales are held in twelve to fifteen of these rooms.

In Paris, in the stamp auctions, every lot is valued at catalogue price, or where there is no price quoted, at what the auctioneers estimate the catalogue value would be.

This value is called out as each lot is put up, and the auctioneer then starts the lot at a franc above the highest bid but one of the commissions entrusted to him. For instance, suppose that on a particular lot he has received bids of 60, 70, 75, and 90 francs, he starts bidding at 76 francs so as to cancel all the lower bids.

This, I believe, is similar to the practice followed in London, and is undoubtedly the fairest and only method that could be adopted.

The first great stamp sale in Paris was about two years ago, and consisted of the stock and collection of the late M. Erard Le Roy d'Etioilles. This occupied nearly twenty days, and realized about £38,000.

Then things were quiet for a couple of years, and only two or three small collections were sold, in which prices were generally rather poor.

In the autumn of last year Mr. Koch—one of the leading German collectors—decided to sell in Paris, and has so far realized about £14,000.

In December there was a sale of European stamps, but they seemed to be duplicates from the greater collection and many poor things, and only low prices were realized.

In January the collection formed during the past twenty years by Mr. J. E. Sparrow was partly sold, and the balance comes up in February; I also hear of three other sales that have been arranged for the next two months.

In England we have had more than twenty years of stamp auctions, and now one sees very few of the great collectors actually present during any of the London sales—their commissions being nearly all in the

hands of the auctioneers or of dealers who undertake this business.

The result is that the English collector calmly considers what he will go to, and there is very little rash or speculative bidding.

In France it seems quite different. The bidding is almost all done by collectors, who attend personally (nearly a hundred we present each day), and I noticed over and over again that for extra fine things they paid little regard to catalogue price, but glare one another, and seem to say, "I'm hanging if I let you have it if I can help it."

The result is that some absurd prices are paid, e.g.:—

Bergedorf, 3 and 4 sch., on letter, £70.

Cape of Good Hope, pair of 4d., dark blue woodblocks, £47 10s., and so on.

But I notice now quite clearly that the market is getting fed up in Paris, and the ordinary stamps are going *very cheap*.

In January in four days I bought some £500 to £600 at auction, and many lots would have yielded 50 per cent more in London.

In fact, I think it most probable that Mr. Sparrow's collection would have sold much better in London than in Paris, and this seems only natural, as the bulk of it consists of British Colonial stamps.

I really think that, judging by the number of collections coming forward in Paris and by the smaller size of the stamp market there, owners will do better by realizing London than they will do in Paris.

The following are a few lots I bought at the prices they were knocked down at. Would not any London auctioneer guarantee that these stamps would bring more under his hammer?

	£ s.
Ceylon, 5 c. on 36 c., inverted, fine used	2 4
Hong Kong, 96 c., yellow-brown, mint	8 0
Perak, 2 c., error FERAK, mint	0 8
,, 2 c., PERAK inverted, mint	0 19
,, 2 c., PREAK error, in pair, mint	1 4
British South Africa, 8d., pair, imperf., mint	7 4
Bahamas, 6d., perf. 13, no wmk., fine, unused	4 0
Bahamas, 4d., perf. 13, no wmk., fine, unused	4 5

I have no space to quote more examples but there are lots like this.

On the whole, I think that at auction in Paris one may get a higher price for abnormal condition, such as blocks, stamps on letters, etc., but taking stamps all round common and rare together, I think that the future will show London a better market which to sell than will be the case in Paris.

Description of New Stock Books arranged and priced during the last week

Abyssinia.

THIS country has now joined the Postal Union, and there is a great demand for the various provisional issues of 1901 to 1907. Many of these are quite unobtainable, though we have been searching for them through our agents on the Continent.

We have, however, got together a nice lot, including very few of the rarer varieties, and have recently remade the stock book, but cannot sell all varieties even at the prices of the 1909 Catalogue, as we found we could not purchase at Catalogue rates. [A special Corrigenda for this country will be found at the end of the new Catalogue.—ED. G.S.W.] We should advise collectors to fill up their wants in this country as soon as possible. Only two sets are common, viz. the postage stamps of 1894 and the Postage Due stamps of 1896, and even in both these sets some of the low values are becoming scarce.

Great Britain.

We have just commenced to rearrange our eight stock books of the stamps of Great Britain, and in these new books will be included an important stock we purchased early in January.

The first volume of the new series is now ready; it is of used stamps only, and includes Nos. 1 to 44 in our Catalogue, i.e. the line-engraved 1d. and 2d. stamps of 1840 to 1858. There are several pages of most of the catalogue numbers, and for the benefit of those who specialize in British stamps we have subdivided each number in the Catalogue into ordinary postmarks: Maltese cross, Scotch, Irish, London districts Nos. 10 to 12 in Maltese cross, London districts with numbers in diamonds, large numbers in circle, and special colours, etc., in the postmarks.

Most varieties of postmark are sold at Catalogue price; a higher value is only asked for those that are really rare.

Specialists who examine these new books carefully should find many bargains.

South Australia.

Two exceptionally strong books of this country have just been rearranged, and the early issues are very strongly represented both in unused and used.

In South Australia it is, perhaps, more difficult to get really well-centred stamps than in any other country, and I specially wish to point out that our Catalogue price is for really good lightly cancelled and centred specimens. Those that do not come up to our standard are priced down to half and even less of the Catalogue rates. In many cases where we have twenty specimens of one stamp we only have, say, half a

dozen worthy of full Catalogue price, and the others will all be found to be priced according to condition. These books are worth the early attention of all collectors of these fine and interesting old stamps.

Newfoundland, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia.

This is a very fine book, and includes an unusually large number of varieties. Amongst these I draw attention to

Newfoundland.

- 2d., scarlet; unused.
- 4d. " " and several fine shades of used.
- 1s., scarlet; unused, superb, large margins and full original gum.
- 4d., orange; unused and several used.
- 6d. " four copies unused, and a fine row of good shades used.
- 1s., orange; used.

New Brunswick.

- 3d., a number of fine shades, unused.
- 6d., yellow; fine unused and a number of beautiful used copies.
- 1s., violet; fine unused and used.
- 1860. 5 c., brown, "Connell."

Nova Scotia.

- 3d., blue; a number unused, including mint pair and strip of three.
- 6d., green; six unused, some fine shades.
- 1s., violet; superb unused with original gum.

BISECTED STAMPS.

In all these countries there are a good lot of the rare stamps bisected and used for half their value. Amongst these I note in New Brunswick half of the 1s. and half of the 3d. used together for the 7½d. rate. This is one of the rarest bisections of the North American colonies.

PROOFS.

Throughout the book will be found some hundreds of rare proofs and colour trials which are so much in demand.

AN APOLOGY!

IN G.S.W. dated January 16, 1909, on page 39, there appeared an article entitled "The 1908 Jubilee Issue of Canada," which I translated from the *Illustriertes Briefmarken-Journal*. Monsieur Th. Lemaire, of Paris, writes me that this article was "lifted" bodily from his own paper, *Le Journal des Philatélistes*, and requests me to state what was the proper source of the article. I greatly regret that I did not see the article first in Monsieur Lemaire's paper, as it is probable that, having undergone two translations, it was not greatly improved thereby.—FRANK PHILLIPS.

The Postage Stamps of Belgium—*contd.*

By CH. DE BONT

Issue of 1869-70—continued.

2 and 20 centimes stamps.

FIRST PRINTING.—Dated November, 1869. Thick paper. Perf. 15.

2 centimes, deep ultramarine, 219,000 copies.
20 " " " 900,000 "

Second printing.—Dated August, 1870. Thick paper. Perf. 15.

2 centimes, dull blue, 1,320,000 copies.

Third printing.—Dated September, 1871. Medium paper, surface slightly shiny. Perf. 15.

20 centimes, pale blue, 570,000 copies.

Fourth printing.—Dated December, 1872. Thin paper. Perf. 15.

2 centimes, deep ultramarine, 1,170,000 copies.
20 " " " 990,000 "

Fifth printing.—Dated 1873. Perf. 15.

2 centimes, sky-blue, 360,000 copies.
20 " " " 360,000 "

Sixth printing.—Was extremely small; the ink used contained a small proportion of aniline; the colour of the two values was *Prussian blue*, or even *indigo*.

In 1881 vegetable ink was used, the colours being, of course, fugitive. The shade of the printing of the year mentioned was *bright indigo-blue*.

From 1883 to 1888 special ink was used, it being obtained from a manufacturer in Leipzig named Wirth; the colour was *ultramarine*.

The 5 centimes stamp.

This stamp was issued on March 1, 1870. Several different printings took place on both thick and thin paper; the total number printed was 108,000,000.

Shades. Ordinary ink. Deep amber, yellowish bistre, red-brown, ochre.

Fugitive colours: orange-brown, reddish ochre.

If stamps of the last-mentioned shade be exposed to air or moisture the shade changes to a *lemon-yellow*.

The 30 centimes stamp.

This value was printed simultaneously with the one mentioned above, and was issued on the same date; exactly similar ink was used. There were no less than seven distinct printings, comprising 31,800,000 copies altogether. The stamp was suppressed on June 1, 1878.

The following are the best-known shades:—

Deep amber, pale flesh-yellow, pale ochre, brownish ochre, reddish ochre.

The 8 centimes stamp.

The 8 centimes stamp was issued on January 1, 1870. Altogether 5,400,000 copies were issued, comprising several printings. The first two printings can be distinguished from those done later by the peculiar tint *red-violet* and *deep violet*, both on this paper, with a slightly shiny surface.

Third printing was *pale mauve*.

Fourth printing on thin paper. Perf. 15. *Pale violet.*

This stamp was suppressed at the same time as the 30 c., and a Special Order on the subject was distributed, a portion of which is given below:—

"SPECIAL ORDER.

"Department of Posts.

"Concerning the return of the 8 and 30 centimes postage stamps to the Chief Stamp Distributing Office.

"March 14, 1870.

"The Minister has ordered that no more postage stamps of the 8 and 30 centimes values be issued after May 31 next.

"Any of these stamps remaining on hand in any office after the above date must be returned to the officer in charge of the Chief Stamp Distributing Office, at Malines, by registered post before June 10; they must be accompanied by consignment note, in duplicate, made out in the form specified below. . . .

"It is to be understood that any 8 or 30 centimes stamps in the possession of the public will still be available for use postally.

"For the Director-General.

(Signed) "A. MICHAUX,

"Inspector-General delegatee

The 40 centimes stamp.

This value was issued on April 1, 1871, and was produced in five printings, all different shades; the total number printed was 9,300,000.

First printing Deep rose.

Second printing Dull rose.

Third printing Rose-carmine.

Fourth printing Bright carmine (fair thick paper).

In 1881 and 1882 the 40 centimes stamp was printed in vegetable ink, the colour therefore being fugitive; thin paper was used.

This value was suppressed by a Special Order dated November 1, 1883, but it was allowed to remain in use until existing stocks were exhausted.

The 1 franc stamp.

This stamp was issued on April 1, 1870, and was produced in five printings, all of which differed from each other as regards shade; the number of stamps printed was 830,000.

<i>First printing</i>	Deep violet.
<i>Second printing</i>	Violet.
<i>Third printing</i>	Pale mauve.
<i>Fourth printing</i>	Pale violet.
<i>Fifth printing</i>	(i.) Red-violet. (ii.) Very deep violet (vegetable ink, fugitive colour).

Stamps in the second colour of the fifth printing are exceedingly rare in an unused condition.

In the stamps of the issue we have been considering the following varieties exist:—

<i>1 centime.</i>	(i.) Imperforate. (ii.) "CENTIME," or one or two letters of the word, omitted. (iii.) "Belgique" instead of "Belgique." (iv.) "belgique" instead of "Belgique." (v.) "Belgigue" instead of "Belgique." (vi.) "Delgique" instead of "Belgique." (vii.) "Beigique" instead of "Belgique." (viii.) "Belgioue" instead of "Belgique." (ix.) "Centive" instead of "Centime." (x.) "centimf" instead of "Centime." (xi.) "Centimi" instead of "Centime." (xii.) "Centimo" instead of "Centime."
<i>2 centimes.</i>	(i.) Dull blue, on thick paper, without line around figure. (ii.) Pale blue, imperforate. (iii.) A dash following "Belgique."

<i>5 centimes.</i>	(i.) Line of tablet broken under "i" of "Belgique." (ii.) Yellow-bistre, "Centim," instead of "Centimes." (iii.) Imperforate. (iv.) No "t" in "Centimes."
<i>8 centimes.</i>	(i.) "Centime," instead of "Centimes."

<i>10 centimes.</i>	(i.) Deep yellow-green, "Belgique," instead of "Belgique." (ii.) Deep blue-green, "Belgiqoe," instead of "Belgique." (iii.) On laid paper. (iv.) Dot between the "u" and "e" in "Belgique." (v.) Imperforate.
<i>12 centimes.</i>	(i.) "Belgioue," instead of "Belgique." (ii.) On laid paper.

30 centimes. (i.) Imperforate.

40 centimes. (ii.) Below the figures of value "40," one pearl, instead of two.

1 franc. (i.) "1 Fp," instead of "1 Fr."

REFERENCE LIST.

Medium or thick paper. Perf. 15.

1 c., green, pale green, yellow-green, deep green.

2 c., blue, dull blue, deep blue, Prussian blue, sky-blue.

5 c., yellow-ochre, deep yellow-ochre, reddish ochre.

8 c., violet, lilac-violet, mauve.

Fugitive colours. Thin, laid paper. Perf. 15.

1 c., green, pale green, deep green.

2 c., blue, pale blue, deep blue.

5 c., pale and deep yellow-ochre, reddish ochre.

Fugitive colours. Thin, laid paper. Perf. 14.

1 c., green, grey-green.

2 c., dull blue, bright blue.

5 c., pale and deep yellow-ochre, reddish ochre.

Medium or thin paper. Perf. 15.

10 c., green, deep green, blue-green, dull green.

20 c., light blue, dull blue, violet-blue, light Prussian blue, indigo.

30 c., yellow-ochre, brownish ochre, orange-ochre.

40 c., dull rose, bright rose, lilac-rose.

1 fr., violet, lilac.

Thick paper. Perf. 15.

10 c., green, deep green, blue-green, pale blue-green, yellow-green, pale yellow-green, dull green.

20 c., dull blue, violet-blue.

30 c., pale and deep yellow-ochre.

40 c., rose, dull rose, flesh-rose.

1 fr., lilac, pale lilac, mauve.

1875. Fine impression on medium paper. Perf. 15.

All the stamps of this printing on a paper showing traces of vertically laid lines, on the back and front of the stamps.

10 c., green, deep green, blue-green, yellow-green.

20 c., blue, violet-blue.

30 c., orange-ochre.

40 c., rose, dull rose, pale rose.

1 fr., violet.

(To be continued.)

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Vindication of the Cayman Islands by the Earl of Crewe!

Report of the Colonial Post Offices Commission

By W. WARD

A THUNDERBOLT has indeed fallen! The report of the inquiry as to the status of several notorious provisionals, made at the instance of the Earl of Crewe, detailed some months ago, is now to hand, and officially confirms the bona fides of several stamps, such as the Cayman Islands and Labuan surcharges. Thus we must, from the report, take it that these stamps were necessary; we can also, at the same time, form our own opinions as to whether the Colonial Office Commission had the facilities for getting at the real truth. It is not likely that those responsible would be so silly as to convict themselves, neither is it at all likely that the superior officers would acknowledge that they so attended to their posts as to allow of the juggling of the postal franks among their subordinate colleagues. Whilst we accept the Colonial Office statements in all good faith, we plead that we be allowed to believe various forms of correspondence we have seen that place a different aspect on the whole affair. That the noble Earl has indeed found some sort of "goings-on" in the Cayman Post Office there remains little doubt, for the lady postmistress, Miss Parsons, and the benevolent American who was her helper, have left the great posts of being heads of His Majesty's Postal Service in the Dominion of Grand Cayman and its Dependent States.

But to give some of his lordship's findings upon the matter:—

"With regard to the stamps of the Cayman Islands, the Governor of Jamaica reports that early this year the Commissioner of the Cayman Islands made proposals for an internal post in the Islands at a reduced rate [though his lordship does not here mention, the rate of letter postage was fixed at a halfpenny], and that the farthing stamp was printed for the newspaper and post card postage. The Commissioner has so far refused to sell these stamps to dealers through the post, on the grounds that they are primarily intended for local use, and that owing to the cost of production outside sale is not profitable."

With all due respect for his lordship, the italics are ours. We are not going to insult our readers' intelligence by forming any conclusion, but at the same time we cannot refrain from remarking that it is very evident that the gallant Caymen would rather sell provisionals than mere four-a-penny stamps. If it were not for his lordship the Earl of

Crewe, doubtless we should grant the Commissioner of the Cayman Islands and his lordship the Governor of Jamaica a biscuit and one of Spratts' at that.

His lordship goes on to say that it is absolutely denied that [*only*] 1440 of the $\frac{1}{2}d$ on 5s. stamps were printed, one half of which were sold to one person in Georgetown. This is an error, for we personally know that there never was an accusation about the selling of half of the $\frac{1}{2}d$. on 5s. stamps to one person; what was said was that the 1d. on 4d. issue was practically divided between two persons, and the writer is prepared to back that out.

So much for the Caymans, which no doubt are getting a little tiring to our readers. But Lord Crewe's "Revelations" are, or rather were, carried much further. Evidently there has been a clean sweep of many of the Colonial Post Offices, and a few more resignations beside that in the Jamaican Dependency.

The report on Gambia is of exceptional interest.

"The Governor of the Colony states that as the supply of the $\frac{1}{2}d$. and 1d. stamps had been exhausted before the arrival of a new supply which had been ordered, no [*regular*] stamps of these denominations were available from the 2nd to the 10th April, letters requiring such postage being stamped 'Postage Paid.' The surcharged stamps were on sale from the 10th to the 24th of April, the date on which the new supply became available. A surplus was left over which was destroyed with proper precautions."

Once more we plead guilty to the italics. If letters requiring postage could, during ten days of three weeks, be franked "Postage Paid," what was the reason of the resorting to the surcharging of other stamps for the remaining few days? Some highly intelligent official will say, "To keep a check upon the Revenue." Quite so; but who hid the quantity of the $\frac{1}{2}d$. and 1d. stamps, and engineered the buying up and cornering of the same values in the sub-offices? Were, oh! were the remainders destroyed? We reply, once again with dutiful respect, "*Je ne pense pas!*"

To pass on, Lord Crewe's shadow of Sherlock Holmes led him all the way to Labuan. We can imagine him asking the Straits Governor, "Why did you surcharge these Labuan stamps?" and his lordship, pro-

ector of His Majesty's subjects in that far-away Asiatic land, jumping upon his punkah-bearer, telling him pretty stories as to what he and *Allah* would do, and then have an inquiry of his own as to who had "split" to the mighty Cabinet at home. On second thoughts he ventured that brevity was the better loophole of escape, for his lordship the Governor of the Straits Settlements replied concisely that the issue "was entirely justified by the occasion." After the mighty effort the punkah punkahed once more, and lime-juice and other grateful liquors passed the downward course t' know of no return, but serve to cool the satanic warmth of that intemperate climate.

Back once more to Lord Crewe's report. The primary object in all cases is the local convenience," and, may we add, *Profit*. Nevertheless, Lord Crewe has a warm spot in his heart for collectors—for is he not one himself in another zone of accumulation?—and he shows it in the following passage:—

"While it is Lord Crewe's wish that any reasonable consideration should be given to the wishes of collectors in this country and elsewhere [for his lordship is a true-hearted free-trader], their interests must necessarily be subordinated to the conveniences of the local public, and either the Secretary of State for the Colonies nor the Colonial Governments can be held responsible for any disappointments which may be occasioned."

Therefore those dealers who did not get their $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Caymans in time to sell at 6d. each were notified that they will have no redress or damages by the non-arrival in time to sell at a better profit.

Once more the various Governors are miling, and the Colonial Postmaster, wearing

a laurel wreath—or fig-leaf—and congratulating themselves that the President of the Local Government Board was not made the Secretary of State for the Colonies, or the fat would have been *Burning* in the fire and provisionals un*Poplar* in the stamp shops in the Moile End Rowde. Still we've something to be thankful for, as a late popular song went; Lord Crewe has done something for Philately that none of his predecessors would have condescended to do, and the least we can do in return is to link his name with those famous for their works indirectly connected with our hobby, though they were not themselves philatelists, as Hill, Burritt, Buxton, Meyer, and a host of others who have acknowledged the very existence of Philately. Who knows? Some day Parliament may grant us a member to speak our will, like unto various of the great 'Varsities.

Reverting to the Cayman Islands once more, it is worthy of note that the new postmaster is a Scotsman, Mr. Graham McCausland, and that he has had strict orders about the juggling with stamps. The ex-postmistress has been complaining to a correspondent about "those dealers and publications which attacked 'her' on account of the provisional issues," and assured her correspondent that she had always tried to do her best. She was a true friend to all stamp collectors—so she said. But we will forgive Miss Parsons when she ends her communication by saying, "Mr. McCausland, an Englishman, has superseded me." We pause to wonder what Mr. McCausland will say to that libel on himself. What a revenge for Bannockburn!

Shanghai

Notes on the 1890-93 Issues

By BERTRAM W. H. POOLE

THE early issues of Shanghai—by virtue of their quaintness, the curious method adopted for their manufacture, and the fact that they were the first postage stamps issued in the Celestial Empire—have always been popular with specialists. References to their multitudinous varieties may be found even the oldest of the philatelic journals, they have time after time formed the subject of scientific articles by the keenest and most ardent of philatelists, and "Shanghai" ranks one of the select countries included in that excellent series *The Stanley Gibbons Philatelic Handbooks*.

But all the specialists in Shanghai seem to have devoted their researches solely to the first type of stamps issued at this Chinese port, and even in Mr. W. B. Thornhill's

handbook the student will find no information regarding the later issues except such as relates to changes of paper, colour, perforation, watermark, or currency.

Any one who takes the trouble to investigate matters will find the issues after 1866 offer a field for study every whit as interesting as that afforded by the stamps used prior to that date.

In these notes, however, I shall refer only to the issues of 1890 to 1893, numbered in Gibbons' Catalogue 145 to 157 and 160 to 164, though, at a later date, I hope to point out a few interesting facts regarding the other types.

In the type under notice the design consists of a central circle containing a shield supported by two very rakish-looking dragons.

On the shield are Chinese characters signifying *Kung-pu*, which may be translated literally as "Municipal Council." Above and below the shield are other native



characters, the latter being *Kuan hsin shu*, which is the Chinese equivalent for "Post Office." Around this centrepiece is a circular band on which "SHANGHAI—LOCAL POST" is shown. At the top, in the centre, are two Chinese characters—*Yan Ying*—a rough equivalent for "Mexican dollars," and on each side of these are other hieroglyphics referring to the face value of the stamp. At the base the word "CENTS" is shown on a scroll joining two unfinished circles on which the numerals of value appear. Above each of these circles is a five-petalled flower. The first supplies of these stamps were printed on unwatermarked paper, perf. 15, and later supplies were on paper watermarked with the design illustrated, which is another form



of the *Kung-pu* characters shown on the shield in the centre of the design.

The values comprised in the series are 2 c., 5 c., 10 c., 15 c., and 20 c., and though, apart from the native characters and English numerals denoting the respective values, the design appears to be the same for all the stamps, it is not so in reality. A close inspection will reveal the fact that the designs all differ in minute particulars, especially as regards the dragons and central shield, thus proving that there must have been separate dies for each denomination.

Some time ago I obtained an entire sheet of the 2 c. brown, on unwatermarked paper (S.G. No. 145), and a casual examination made it apparent that the sheet was composed of five distinct types, the stamps on each horizontal row being of the same type, and each row being of a different type.

Through the courtesy of Messrs. Whitfield King and Co., of Ipswich, I have been able to examine their fine stock of entire sheets and large blocks of these stamps, and from an examination of Mr. W. H. Peckitt's

stock of the rarer varieties I have been able to verify certain facts regarding the interesting manner in which these Shanghai stamps were produced.

The stamps were all produced by lithography, and were printed in sheets of fifty arranged in five horizontal rows of ten stamps each.

For some of the values more than one stone was prepared, and the method adopted for their manufacture is highly interesting.

In producing the first supplies, on the unwatermarked paper, five transfers were taken from each die in a *vertical* strip, and this strip was applied on the stone ten times to complete the "plate" for printing. Thus each sheet is composed of ten vertical strips of five stamps each, differing in minute particulars.

For the 2 c. and 5 c. values—which were the denominations in most frequent use—fresh stones were prepared (probably early in 1892), and these were composed of five vertical blocks of ten stamps each, also all differing in minute particulars.

There is, of course, nothing surprising in there being different types of these stamps for many other lithographed stamps—the 1875 issue of Sarawak, for instance—have been produced in a similar manner. But in all other cases I know of in which the stones have been composed of strips of types, these have been arranged horizontally, and not *vertically*, as were these Shanghai stamps.

To account for this we must remember that the stamps were manufactured in China. The Oriental method of writing and reading is the exact reverse of that practised by dwellers in the Occident, and it is, therefore, I think, not unreasonable to suppose that these stamps were arranged in the same manner as would be adopted in writing. Thus, in taking five transfers from the die the bottom one would be made first and the strip of transfers would be applied to the stone from right to left. The same would be the case with the blocks of ten transfers, which would be arranged by the Chinese workmen as follows:—

10	9
8	7
6	5
4	3
2	1

And the blocks of ten would be arranged across the sheets as follows:—

5	4	3	2	1
---	---	---	---	---

In the following notes, however, I shall

describe the types as though they were arranged according to European ideas. I also propose dealing with the different

varieties according to values, and not according to the catalogue grouping of watermark, perforation, and colour.

(To be continued.)

Memory Joggers

By C. EGBERT ASHBY

IT often occurs that one has to distinguish, on the spur of the moment, between this and that minor variety or printing, and one finds it handy to have some sort of reference to turn to. Without doubt the best reference is the catalogue; but the catalogue is not always in the pocket, and so, if studied carefully, the stamps themselves can be made the reference list—a list so reliable that it becomes impossible to err in picking out correctly the desired information. A few hints on a system of philatelic memory training may not be out of season.

The first Grecian stamps were printed in Paris and afterwards in Athens. The difference is: "The Paris-printed stamps have the shading on the cheek and neck of Mercury made up of fine lines and dots. In those printed in Athens the lines are unbroken and thicker." On carefully reading the above it will be seen that there is an "i" in "Paris," which may be taken as a line and dot. In Athens it will be noticed that there is no dot to any letter. There are no dots in the Athens print. The two varieties of the French 1876 (Peace and Commerce) issue are: First, letter "N" of "INV" under "B" of "REPUBLIQUE," "N" and "B" naturally collide as N.B., which is, being

interpreted, "take notice," and on referring to prices we find that with but one exception (that of the 10 c.) they are higher in this, the first set. Second, the letter "N" of "INV" under "U" of "REPUBLIQUE," "NU" may easily be taken for "new," which exactly fits the case in point. Turning to Chili we find there are two varieties in the "animal" type of Telegraphs overprinted for postal use, viz.: (1) animal (Huemul) without mane and tail; (2) with mane and tail. I notice that by far the scarcer is the one with mane and tail, which, of course, is the main tale!

The original Government issue of Transvaal stamps surcharged "Swazieland" for use in that district has no stop (.) after "Swazieland," so that when the stop is seen the warning is short and imperative, "Stop! Reprint!" This timely warning also comes in useful in the case of certain forgeries, such as the first issue of "British Bechuana-land" on Cape of Good Hope.

There are many such little tricks and hints that, when once applied, will never be forgotten. If one is accused of punning, what then? A funny story or a joke about this or that stamp is always appreciated.

Notes of a Provincial Junior—continued

By YOKEL

South Australia—continued

1870-1 Issue.

IN 1870 a new machine gauging 10 was used, and was likewise used in conjunction with the $11\frac{1}{2}$ and $12\frac{1}{2}$ machine. A new value—3d.—was issued at this period. All the values in the preceding issue are found perf. $10 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$ or $12\frac{1}{2}$, and also, except the 2s., perf. 10. The 3d. value is found perf. 10, perf. $10 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$ or $12\frac{1}{2}$, perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$ or perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$. It was first issued by surcharging a stamp printed in slate-blue from the 4d. plate with "3 PENCE" in carmine, but it is only found perf. 10. It was afterwards printed in shades of blue and surcharged in black. It is found in all the above varieties of perforation, and is hard to find perf. $10 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$ or $12\frac{1}{2}$, especially in a sky-blue shade. In the perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$ issue a Prussian blue shade, similar to that used for the 6d.

value, was used for this stamp, but is very scarce; the ordinary shades are not scarce.

The 4d. is found perf. 10, with watermark V and Crown. As a shortage of paper occurred in 1871, and a temporary supply was obtained from Melbourne, this stamp is not readily met with in fine condition. The 2d., orange-red, is also found on this paper; this value was at this period, together with the 1d., printed from plates engraved by Messrs. De La Rue, and sent to the colony in 1868. These two stamps are printed on paper watermarked Crown and SA—the SA being wide apart. Varieties perf. 10 or rouletted are easily found, but perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$, $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$, perforated x rouletted, and perf. $10 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$ or $12\frac{1}{2}$ are mostly scarce, and some are very rare.

The 2d. value was printed for a time on paper watermarked Large Star (like the paper used for all the preceding issues); it

is not scarce rouletted, but very hard to find perforated or perforated \times rouletted.

We now come to three stamps in the Catalogue which are rather mystifying, viz. Nos. 135-7. The supply of the first 9d., lilac, stamps was, I believe, not exhausted in 1872, but most of the sheets had been rouletted. For some reason or other one—or more—of these rouletted sheets was perforated, and from it was obtained the 9d., No. 135 in the Catalogue. Nos. 136 and 137 were, I believe, the ordinary perforated \times rouletted stamps; they are all rare.

In July, 1872, a new printing was made in a violet shade, and this, as well as the mauve shade which followed, were perforated $11\frac{1}{2}$ or $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$.

This stamp was the last that was printed on paper watermarked Large Star.

Broad Star Issue.

All the later Star watermarks are of the large broad-pointed Star type, with the paper thick and soft, the watermark showing more clearly than in the old paper. An 8d. value was the first stamp printed on this paper; it was formed by surcharging the 9d. printed in shades of yellow-brown with "8 PENCE" in black. It was perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$ and $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$, and is found also in a grey-brown shade, which is much scarcer than the yellow-brown shades, which are easy to obtain of average condition.

The Broad Star paper was next used for the 3d., 4d., 6d., 9d., 1s., and 2s. values. The 6d., blue, is the only value found perf. 10, and is hard to find well centred, but it is very common. $10 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$ or $12\frac{1}{2}$; the 4d., 6d., and 1s. values are also found with this perforation. The 4d., purple, No. 156, is a hard stamp to find, and must not be confused with No. 202, which is of a red-mauve shade. The six values are all found perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$ or $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$. The 3d. is a very good stamp used, and worth considerably more than the 3d. on Large Star paper; it is printed in a somewhat deeper colour. The 4d., purple, is somewhat difficult to find with either perforation, and the 6d., perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$, is by no means common. The 9d. value is found in a pale lilac-rose shade, but is fairly common perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$. The 1s. is found in numerous shades, of which a sepia and lake-brown are not easy to obtain in fine condition. The 2s. value is fairly common.

In 1880 the 4d. value was printed in red-mauve and the 6d. in ultramarine; they are easily found perf. $10 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$ or $12\frac{1}{2}$; but perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$ or compound with $12\frac{1}{2}$ the 6d. is scarce, and the 4d. not readily met with.

This practically completes the line-engraved series, but in 1897 the 9d., 1s., and 2s. were printed on the same Broad Star paper, but were perforated by the $11\frac{1}{2}$ and $12\frac{1}{2}$ machines, to which new pins had been fitted; the holes formed were considerably

larger, and no difficulty is experienced in distinguishing this issue. The 9d. is found in a good range of shades, some of which are hard to get in used condition; the 1s. is not hard to find, but the 2s. is not often seen.

In 1902 these stamps were printed on paper watermarked Crown and SA wide, the 9d. being in a deep lilac-rose, the 1s. in many shades of brown, of which those with a reddish tinge are the best. They are a rather hard to find in fine used condition, although many mint copies of this and the preceding issue are on the market.

At first sight this country seems to bristle with difficulty, but with a little earnest study it can easily be mastered as far as the various perforations are concerned, and the two kinds of Star watermarks are not especially hard to separate.

Many of these stamps are found with departmental surcharges in the early issues, but about 1874 these were superseded by the general "O S" surcharge for all departments. This branch forms a study in itself and is often ignored by the average collector.

A detailed list of prices for the past twenty years would be too lengthy, but I append a few examples.

	1885 s. d.	1895 s. d.	1897 s. d.	1902 s. d.	1908 s. d.
1d., London	—	35 0	32 0	25 0	25 0
2d. "	1 6	3 0	3 0	2 0	3 6
6d. "	1 6	4 0	3 6	3 6	4 6
1d., Col., imperf.	—	60 0	60 0	65 0	50 0
2d. "	1 0	3 6	2 0	2 0	2 6
6d. "	1 0	15 0	15 0	20 0	20 0
1s. "	4 6	40 0	40 0	30 0	40 0
1d., Col., rouletted	1 0	5 0	6 0	7 6	10 0
2d. "	0 4	2 6	1 6	1 0	1 0
6d. "	0 6	5 0	3 6	3 6	7 6
1s. "	3 0	12 0	12 0	12 6	12 6
1d., green, rouletted	1 0	2 6	2 6	6 0	10 0
2d., vermillion	0 6	0 9	0 9	0 8	1 6
4d., purple	—	6 0	4 0	8 0	10 0
6d., blue	0 4	1 0	0 9	1 6	3 0
9d., grey-lilac	1 0	3 6	2 6	3 6	4 0
10d., orange-red	2 0	12 6	10 0	12 0	15 0
10d., yellow	—	20 0	15 0	25 0	15 0
1s., brown	0 4	2 6	2 0	2 6	6 0
2s., rose-carmine	1 0	10 0	8 6	8 6	10 0
1d., perf. \times rouletted	—	6 6	10 0	15 0	15 0
4d. "	—	60 0	60 0	65 0	85 0
6d. "	—	5 0	5 0	8 6	12 6
10d. "	—	15 0	16 6	20 0	30 0
1s. "	—	6 0	6 6	12 0	10 0
1d., perf., Large Star	0 9	10 0	4 0	5 0	10 0
4d. "	0 1	10 0	3 0	5 0	8 6
6d. "	0 1	8 0	2 0	2 6	4 6
10d. "	1 0	17 6	17 6	20 0	30 0
1s. "	0 2	—	3 0	—	7 6
2s. "	0 3	30 0	3 6	5 0	6 0

	1885 s. d.	1895 s. d.	1897 s. d.	1902 s. d.	1908 s. d.
1d., perf. 10	—	7 6	6 6	10 0	12 6
4d. " " " " .	—	4 0	4 0	10 0	16 0
rs. " " " " .	—	6 0	10 0	12 6	15 0
3d., slate-blue	—	28 0	27 6	32 6	35 0
gd., violet, perf. 12½	0 4	1 6	1 6	2 6	4 0
8d. " " " " .	0 3	1 0	0 9	2 6	3 0
3d., Large Star	0 2	4 0	4 0	5 0	6 0

It will be noticed that a remarkable rise has taken place during the past ten years in the value of many stamps, but in many cases it is caused by the detailed classification of perforation and is hardly justified. The prices for the year 1902 should be carefully studied, as these form a safer criterion of value than the 1908 list on the average. [This is merely the opinion of the writer. Our publishers' prices are based upon stock.—ED. G.S.W.]

(To be continued.)

Foreign Notes

By FRANK PHILLIPS

"Egypt and Co., Stamp Dealers"

APPARENTLY the Egyptian finances are in such a condition that the authorities will not adopt the most dignified way of getting rid of an accumulation of old postage stamps by consigning them to the flames.

L'Echo de la Timbrologie states that three lots of stamps have been offered for sale to the highest bidder. Offers had to be sent in to the Director-General of Posts, at Alexandria.

The following are the stamps referred to, all of them being cancelled.

LOT 1.

Egyptian Stamps.

1 and 5 mil. and 1 piastre	187,500
2, 3 and 4 mil.	37,500
2 piastres	225,000
5 " " " " .	75,000
10 " " " " .	15,000

LOT 2.

Sudanese Stamps.

5 mil.	2,000
1 piastre	5,000
2 piastres	3,000
5 " " " " .	3,000
10 " " " " .	3,000

LOT 3.

German Stamps. 1900 Issue (Reichspost).

1 mark	8,000
2 marks	3,200
3 " " " " .	700
5 " " " " .	100

It is rather hard to understand why the Egyptian authorities have a lot of used German stamps. Perhaps all the postal officials had strict instructions to cut them off any letters arriving from Germany. In certain (un)reliable quarters it is rumoured that a huge consignment of fire-screens, etc., decorated with used postage stamps of all countries, is awaiting sale at the London Docks!

An Ingenious Fraud on the Post Office

L'Annonce de la Timbrologie is responsible for this and for the following anecdote:—

"A means of making free use of the postal service has long been known to certain people of questionable reputation inhabiting Frankfort-on-Main.

"According to the regulations of the German Post Office, printed matter is only delivered to the addressee if properly franked. Should printed matter be posted unfranked, it is either destroyed or, if the sender has written his name and address on the back, is returned to him *free of charge*. The parties to the scheme found this regulation of the greatest possible use. On the articles they wished to despatch they wrote purely fictitious addresses, and on the back they wrote the name and address of the person for whom the packet was really intended. The packet was unstamped, and so the postal authorities returned it to the sender, as they thought, which was exactly what the rascally advertisers had intended!"

"The fraud was only discovered by some official noticing the enormous percentage of packets containing printed matter that was 'returned to senders'!"

A fraud of this nature would be impossible in this country, as is made clear by the following regulation of the Post Office with regard to undelivered correspondence:—

"POST CARDS, HALFPENNY PACKETS, AND NEWSPAPERS."

"Undelivered post cards, halfpenny packets, and newspapers are dealt with as follows:—

"(i) Those bearing on the outside the name and address of the sender, with a request for their return in case of non-delivery, are sent back direct from the office of destination, and are delivered to the sender *on payment of a second postage*.

"(ii) Those bearing on the outside no request for return in case of non-delivery are disposed of."

The above regulations are recommended to the notice of the German authorities.

A new Captain of Koepenick!

"In the Bavarian town of Munich some one has just shown the desire to emulate the world-renowned Captain of Koepenick, and successfully too!"

"Garbed in the full uniform of a Post Office employé, he presented himself at the head post office of the town, and demanded the mails for Nuremberg, a large town 100 miles distant.

"Of course one would imagine that written authority would be required before the mails were handed over to the unknown *soi-disant* employé. Not a bit of it! Unknown was he . . . but he wore the uniform!

"He was given two huge sacks of letters and registered packets, one of which contained four hundred pounds' worth of securities and the other three hundred and twenty-five pounds' worth.

"The man slung the bags over his shoulder and walked out without being even asked for a receipt, and to this day the police cannot discover the slightest trace of who he was or of his present abode.

"How mighty is the uniform . . . to the Teuton mind!"

That Automatic Stamp-vending Machine Again!

An amusing story is recounted by the Hague correspondent of *Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste*:

"The automatic machine for distributing postage stamps, which was invented by M. Eggink, of Haarlem, was given a trial of some weeks' duration by the Minister of Posts, in The Hague. The machine emerged triumphant, and was promptly sent back to Haarlem, its native place, to do duty in the chief post office of that town.

"Yesterday the machine was allowed to be used by the public; a curious crowd examined it closely, and at last one, more courageous than the rest, ventured to insert a 5 cent piece in the slot. Nothing happened! No stamp was forthcoming, neither did the machine return the coin!!

"Great demonstration by the crowd in front of the post office! The inventor is quickly on the scene, and quickly he repairs the damaged mechanism.

"An hour or so later two more hardy spirits essay the new invention. Success this time! In exchange for a 5 cent piece the machine gives out two 5 cent stamps! Great rejoicing on the part of the populace! The machine is voted a magnificent institution, and crowds rush to use it!"

"A postal employé, dreaming sweetly over his easy task, at last wakes up and sees that something is wrong with the wonderful machine. Unwilling to sully the beauty of such mechanism he rushes off to find the inventor.

"During this time the machine, now totally out of gear, is hard at work selling 5 cent stamps to all comers at the rate of two for 5 cents, and, beating its own record, also returns the coin inserted every time!

"The whole populace of the town seem to be surging round the machine; a queue is formed, each person with a nickel coin ready to hand.

"But all good things come to an end some time. The order goes forth to restrain the frenzied generosity of the machine, and as by this time it is giving out stamps at the rate of twenty a minute, without any money at all, the authorities adopt stern measures! A stalwart employé takes hold of a great mail bag, and draws it completely over the machine; but the bag is unable to deaden the sound of the machinery inside, which still continues to work as though imbued with life."

Island for Sale!

"THE island of Northolt, which forms part of the New Hebrides group, is at the present time for sale in London.

"The island, although small, is very fertile, and most charmingly situated; it is noted locally for the splendid oxen, goats, and sheep raised on its luxuriant pastures. The volume of its trade amounts to about £4400 per annum.

"Should some speculator buy the island, he could considerably augment this figure by issuing postage stamps, amongst which would naturally be a large number of provisionals; if, if . . . he could get collectors to believe that they were not a private speculation.

"The owner of this tiny island, the area of which is only a little over fifty acres, is entitled to be called a king.

"Another advantage is that, should the crown prove too heavy for the head of its wearer, he would be quite within his rights if he sold his kingdom. How many of the greater kings of the earth would wish to do as much?"

Le Bulletin Philatélique.

New Issues and Discoveries

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Belgium.—We have purchased a copy of the 90 c. 1902 issue of Parcel Post stamps, showing a clear and complete double impression, one impression being inverted. A most curious point about this variety is that the green centre and vermilion frame, etc., are both double. One would think it an impossibility for such a thing to happen, as it would mean that in two different printing operations a mistake was made!

British Honduras.—We have recently purchased a variety of "FIVE" on 3 c. surcharged provisional of the 1891 issue, which we list below.



1891. Type I (stamp No. 38) surcharged with new value as Type 7. Variety. (ii.) With "FIVE" and bar of surcharge double. 50¢ "FIVE" on 3 c., brown.

Dutch Indies.—It is stated in *The Postage Stamp* (9.1.09) that the $7\frac{1}{2}$ c., $17\frac{1}{2}$ c., and $22\frac{1}{2}$ c. have been received with the overprints "JAVA" and "UITEN-BEZIT."



10



II

BUITEN**JAVA.**

14

BEZIT.

15

1908. Types 10 ($7\frac{1}{2}$ c.) and 11 overprinted in black.
(i.) As Type 14, horizontally.

126 | $7\frac{1}{2}$ c., slate.130 | $17\frac{1}{2}$ c., bistre.132 | $22\frac{1}{2}$ c., olive and brown.

(ii.) As Type 15, vertically upwards, in black. Space between two lines of overprint, 13 mm. on $7\frac{1}{2}$ c., 10 mm. on $17\frac{1}{2}$ c. and $22\frac{1}{2}$ c.

140 | $7\frac{1}{2}$ c., slate.150 | $17\frac{1}{2}$ c., bistre.152 | $22\frac{1}{2}$ c., olive and brown.

Elobey, Annobon and Corisco.—We have received a 10 c. of the 1907 issue overprinted similarly to No. 204 of Fernando Poo; also two of the large fiscal stamps, surcharged for postal use in Spanish Guinea, as Nos. 8a to 8f in the Catalogue, and also handstamped in blue, with an oval figure containing the words "ELOBEY, ANNDOBON Y CORISCO," and so apparently authorizing them for use.



HABILITADO
PARA
05 CTMS

1908. Type 3 overprinted with Type 4, in black.
57 | 5 c. on 10 c., dull lilac.

**HABILITADO
PARA
CORREOS
10 cen de peseta**

2

1908. Fiscal stamps inscribed "POSESIONES ESPAÑOLES DE AFRICA OCCIDENTAL" surcharged as Type 2 of Spanish Guinea, in red (R.) or black (Bk.), and also handstamped in blue, with an oval inscribed "ELOBEY, ANNDOBON Y CORISCO," etc. Imperf.
60 | 10 c. on 25 c., black (R.).
62 | 10 c. on 1 p. 25 c., rose (Bk.).

Eritrea.—*L'Echo de la Timbrologie* (15.1.09) states that the Italian 5 c., showing a head of King Victor Emmanuel turned to the left, has been provided with the usual overprint.



Colonia Eritrea

151

37

1908. Type 37 (of Italy) overprinted with Type 151, in black.
34 | 5 c., green.

Japanese P.O.'s in China.—The *Echo de la Timbrologie* (31.12.08) states that the 5 and 10 yen stamps of Japan, of the recently issued "Empress Kogo Jingo" type, have been overprinted as usual for use in China.



年賀

61

30

1908. Type 30 (of Japan) overprinted with Type 61, in black. Perf. 12.
423 | 5 yen, green.
424 | 10 , deep lilac.

Natal.—In addition to the 5d. listed last week, we have been shown a new 2d. on multiple paper.



31

1908. Type 31. Centre in first colour. Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A. Perf. 14.
149 | 2d., carmine and olive-green, O

New Zealand.—According to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (16.1.09), the small 3d. stamp was issued on, or before, November 10, 1908, with the latest comb perforation.



43

NOVEMBER, 1908. Type 43. Wmk. N.Z and Star (close), Type 41. Perf. 14×15 (comb machine).
3d., brown.

Paraguay.—We have received from our agents in Asuncion three new varieties, which we duly list below.



39

Habilitado en
5
CENTAVOS

44

1908. Type 39 surcharged as Type 44, in black.
Varieties. (ii.) Surcharge double, one slanting.

187a|5 c. on 2 c., carmine.

(ii.) Surcharge double.

5 c. on 60 c., pink.



42b

Habilitado

42a

1908. Type 42b overprinted with Type 42a; in black.
Variety. Overprint double.
142a|1 p., black and orange.

St. Vincent.—At the recent auction sale in Paris our Managing Director purchased an imperforate copy of the 1s. of the 1883-4 issue, with Crown and CA watermark. This variety is extremely rare in an unused condition, and must certainly be included in the Catalogue, as copies are known used on original envelopes.



I

1883-4. Type I. Wmk. Crown C A, Type w. 6.
(c) Imperf.
43a| 1s., orange-vermilion.

Switzerland.—Baron A. de Reuterskiöld sends us two new values of the new set of low-value stamps, which we duly chronicle below.



18

JANUARY, 1909. Type 18. Granite paper. Wmk. Cross,
Type 13. Perf. 11½.
244 | 3 (c.), deep lilac.
245 | 5 (c.), green.

Turks Islands.—We have recently purchased two varieties of the 1d. on 2½d. of the 1883 issue. One has the surcharge double, one above the other, well separated; the other also double the top surcharge being inverted, and quite clear of the one below it. These are both extreme rarities.



18-19

1889. Type 18 surcharged with Type 19, in black.
Wmk. Crown C A, Type w. 6. Perf. 14.
Varieties. (i.) Surcharge double.
54d|1d. on 2½d., red-brown.
(ii.) Surcharge double; top surcharge inverted.
54d|1d. on 2½d., red-brown.

United States.—Our American house have forwarded specimens of the latest printings of the set now going obsolete. We find four of the values are so different from their forerunners, as regards shades of colour, that we list them below as distinct varieties. The 8 c. is described in the Catalogue as "grey-violet," but should be "deep grey-violet," as current specimens of this stamp are much lighter in colour.

We have also received a supply of the new 3, 4, and 6 cent stamps, "Houdon" Washington type.



91



94



95



97

1908. Types 91, 94, 95, and 97. New shades. Perf. 12.
421a | 3 c., purple-mauve.
424a | 6 c., brown-lake.
425 | [8 c., deep grey-violet].
425a | 8 c., grey-violet.
427a|13 c., black-brown.



113

JAN. (?) 1909. Type 113. Perf. 12.
449 | 3 c., deep mauve-violet.
450 | 4 c., yellow-brown.
452 | 6 c., reddish orange.

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VOL. IX.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

Grenada



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J. Bartholomew Ltd.

THIS island is the most southerly of the Windward group in the West Indies, and contains about 133 square miles, and a population of 70,000. It is a British crown colony and the head-quarters of the government of the Windward Islands. Between it and St. Vincent are several small islands called Grenadines, some of which are administered by St. Vincent and the remainder by Grenada, the largest one attached to the latter being Carriacou, with an area of ten and a half square miles and a population of 7500.

Grenada was discovered by Columbus August 15, 1498, and was named by him "La Concepcion." In 1674 the island was annexed to France, but in 1762 it was taken

by Commodore Swinton, and formally ceded to Great Britain by the Treaty of Paris in 1763. The war between Great Britain and the American Colonies enabled France to regain temporary possession of some of her former colonies, including Grenada, but thanks mainly to Rodney's great victory off Dominica these were recovered and formally restored to Great Britain by the Treaty of Versailles in 1783. The island is mountainous, and its ridges of hills, covered with trees and brushwood, render it highly picturesque. It is well watered, the climate is very healthy, and the soil extremely fertile.

In common with the rest of the West Indies, commercial prosperity in Grenada has de-

clined since the eighteenth century. This decline in the West India trade has been largely due to the shrinkage in value of the staple products, particularly sugar, and to the labour difficulty consequent on the abolition of slavery. Things have improved during the last few years, and to-day the prospects of the West Indies are brighter than they have been for a long time.

Grenada has, however, long since ceased to be a sugar-producing colony, the chief product for many years having been cocoa, whilst nutmeg cultivation has been largely developed. Cloves, vanilla, and other spices are grown, and so largely has the cultivation of spices been increased that Grenada is known as "the Spice Island of the West."

The total exports in 1906-7 were about £210,000.

The imports in the same period amounted to £223,000, and chiefly comprised dry goods, bread-stuffs, hardware, etc.

The legal currency is British sterling, doubloons, and United States gold coins.

The chief town is St. George's, on the south-west coast, with a population of 5000. It possesses a fine harbour, and offers exceptional inducements as a port of call and coaling station for steamers.

Philatelic History

Grenada being the subject of one of our publishers' handbooks is sufficient evidence of the interest attaching to the stamps of the country.* It has always been a specialist's field of study, and at first sight the issues, especially the provisionals, look complicated. The general collector, however, need not be dismayed, for a representative selection may be obtained at moderate cost, and by a disregard for the differences between the Star watermarks and the Perkins Bacon perforations need not embrace a great many stamps. This method, though well enough for the average collector, scarcely does justice to this interesting country, and earnest collectors should consult the remarkable work by Messrs. Bacon and Napier, and arrange their stamps in conformity with the suggestions contained therein.

The stamps of Grenada possess many unique features, amongst others the employment of three classes of Star-watermarked paper, a curious arrangement of plates by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., and the peculiar use of fiscal stamps overprinted for postal duty. The stamps of the earlier Perkins Bacon issues are particularly handsome, and countries that embrace the productions of this firm, as well as those of

* No. 7. Stanley Gibbons Philatelic Handbooks, *Grenada*, by E. D. Bacon and F. H. Napier. Prices: paper cover 7s. 6d., post-free 7s. 10d., abroad 7s. 11d.; bound in cloth 9s. 6d., post-free 9s. 10d., abroad 10s.

De La Rue and Co., are always attractive. As regards prices, in common with other countries in the West Indian group they have been subject to some fluctuation, but on the whole Grenada has been fairly constant. To-day there is a steady demand for the stamps, and it is not easy to replenish stocks.

Up to September, 1860, the Post Office department of the island was entirely under the management and control of the Postmaster-General of the United Kingdom, and British stamps were used. The office was at St. George's and the obliterator employed was numbered A15.

In September, 1860, an Act was passed transferring the local post office to the Government of Grenada, fixing the postage rates for inter-colonial letters, and providing for the issue of postage stamps. This was followed by an Act in February, 1861, which established an inland post with a uniform rate of one penny for every letter up to half an ounce in weight.

From their introduction down to the end of 1881 the stamps were printed by Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co.; in 1883 Messrs. De La Rue and Co. sent out their first consignment, and this firm has since continued to print and supply all the stamps, etc., used by the colony.

A convenient arrangement is thus at once suggested, but as three classes of stamps were printed by Perkins Bacon and Co. a subdivision of this firm's productions will render the arrangement still simpler. Thus a general collector may divide his stamps into four groups, viz. :—

I. *Perkins Bacon* printings.

- (a) With inscribed value, specially designed for postal purposes.
- (b) Without inscribed value, printed in special colours, and surcharged for postal use.

(c) Without inscribed value, printed for fiscal purposes in the same colour for all denominations, overprinted with varying values, and adapted locally for postal use.

II. *De La Rue* printings.

Some of the section (c) overlap Group I, but the above arrangement is fairly well chronological order, and it has the advantage of keeping the same class of provisionals together.

GROUP I (a).

At the time postage stamps were introduced, in 1861, the rate for letters to Great Britain was sixpence the half-ounce. The charge was divided as follows: one penny went to Grenada and fivepence to Great Britain; of the last, fourpence was for transit and one penny for local delivery. In the spring of 1863 the rate was raised to one

shilling the half-ounce, and was not reduced until Grenada joined the Postal Union on January 1, 1881, when the half-ounce rate was lowered to fourpence.

The two rates of one penny and sixpence account for the issue in 1861 of stamps of these denominations, and they continued for many years to be the only two postage stamps in use in the island, as it was not until 1875 that a shilling value was issued.

The plate for each value contained 120 stamps arranged in ten horizontal rows of twelve, and the colours were all through substantially *green* for the 1d. and *red* for the 6d., though there are numerous shades. The stamps show the well-known "Coronation" portrait of Queen Victoria, and are handsome specimens of line-engraved work. From 1861 to 1881 about 636,000 penny and 228,000 sixpenny stamps were supplied by Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co.

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Stock Books, and are, therefore, the Prices at which Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., will have pleasure in supplying any of the stamps that may be needed by any of our readers.

Topical Notes

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

The Manchester Philatelic Exhibition

O PENS on Thursday, February 18, and remains open on the following Friday the 19th and Saturday the 20th. I trust that it will be well patronized by visitors from the south.

Needless to say the northerners will be present in their thousands, and I trust that the Exhibition will be a huge success, similar to that attained by the last Junior Exhibition held in London.

Funds still wanted.

The last published list of donations to the funds of the Exhibition shows that only £63 had been subscribed; to this amount the Royal Philatelic Society, London, has just made a grant of £20 from their Exhibition fund account and our publishers have sent £5. I trust that many of my fellow dealers will subscribe to this fund and as liberally as possible; the more that Philately is brought before the public the more will the trade benefit, and all these exhibitions should be helped as far as lies in one's power.

A Special Post Office and Postmark.

As detailed last week, the Postmaster-General has granted the special privilege of opening a branch post office in the Exhibition, and all mail posted at this office will be obliterated with a special postmark,

The first supplied (96,000 penny and 24,000 sixpenny) were on unwatermarked paper and perforated by a guillotine machine gauging 14 to 16. There are two shades of the 1d., one of which, a *bluish green*, is much scarcer than the other. The stamps were probably issued about June 1, 1861.



June 1, 1861, No. wmk. Perf.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1d., green	12 0	4 0
6d., rose	12 6	

12 6

which, no doubt, in years to come will be keenly sought for by postmark collectors. The publishers of *G.S.W.* have arranged that the number for February 20 shall be posted to subscribers from this special office, and readers who receive their copies in this way should be on the look-out for this interesting postmark, which is illustrated here (the illustration is slightly larger than the actual postmark). Those readers who are



not on the subscription list and would like a copy posted them may obtain one by remitting 2d. to the publishers, in good time, before the close of the Exhibition.

The Exhibition will be held at the HULME TOWN HALL, STRETFORD ROAD, HULME, MANCHESTER.

The Exhibition will be opened on Thursday, February 18, at 3.30 p.m., and on Friday and Saturday at 10.30 a.m.

It will close each day at 10 p.m.

Free Admission.

Admission to the Exhibition will be entirely free by ticket. We shall be pleased to send from one to three free tickets to any reader of this paper who will forward us an addressed and stamped envelope on or before February 18 next.

The hall is easily accessible by electric car (fare 1d.) from all parts of the city, and all the cars running to the Exhibition will bear announcements to that effect.

The various railway companies have consented to run excursions into Manchester, and arrangements for a reduced tariff for intending visitors have been made with the following hotels :—

MIDLAND HOTEL. 12s. 6d. per day, meals in the grill-room.
16s. " " dining-room.

GRAND HOTEL, Aytoun Street. 6s. 6d. and 7s. 6d., bed and breakfast.
12s. 6d. per day, full meals.

THE ALBION HOTEL, Piccadilly. 6s. 6d. and 7s. 6d., bed and breakfast.
11s. 6d. per day, full meals.

THE DEANSGATE (Temperance) HOTEL, Deansgate. 5s. 6d., bed and breakfast.
10s. 6d. per day, full meals.

The Philatelic Congress

THIS will be the first opportunity afforded in this country to philatelists of all shades and opinions to confer upon many important matters connected with Philately. The most important British societies have already expressed their willingness and desire to help it forward and take part in it.

Delegates have already been appointed to attend, the result of whose deliberations must undoubtedly be of permanent value to the hobby.

The following names should be added to the list of delegates given in last week's *G.S.W.* :—

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

J. H. Abbott.
G. B. Duerst.
J. Stilfox Gee.

FISCAL SOCIETY. A. B. Kay.**HULL AND EAST RIDING.**

R. W. Dewing.
A. R. Hebblethwaite.
H. Immencamp, R.A.

BIRMINGHAM.

Rich. Hollick.
T. Whitmore Peck.
Mr. Margoschis.

NORTH LONDON.

Chas. M. C. Symes.

Special matters of philatelic importance will be discussed, such as the following :—

The formation of a national Society or Federation.

The holding of an annual Congress.

The suppression of unnecessary or speculative issues, etc.

The compilation of a Collector's Catalogue and Guide.

Suggestions of further subjects of interest will be carefully considered, and all philatelists are heartily invited to attend and make the Congress successful and worthy of the traditions of British philatelic societies.

What to see at the Exhibition

MAIN HALL.—Collections of the postage stamps of Great Britain and British Colonies both used and unused, will be shown.

FOURTEEN of the principal dealers will display the latest in albums, philatelic accessories, etc., together with an unequalled stock of stamps.

THE "ROSS" LADIES' BAND will perform each afternoon and evening.

THE SMALL HALL.—Collections of Foreign Countries and their Colonies.

PHILATELIC CURIOSITIES, pictures made of stamps, proofs, essays, forgeries, etc.

POSTAL.—On the ground floor will be found a working department of the Post Office.

MANCHESTER JUNIOR PHILATELIC SOCIETY'S STALL.

DINNERS, TEAS, AND REFRESHMENTS at popular prices in the restaurant.

Banquet

A BANQUET has been arranged for Friday evening, February 19, in connection with the Exhibition and Congress, and tickets can be had from J. J. Darlow, Hon. Congress Secretary, 9 Albert Square, Manchester, at 7s. 6d. each.

Official Catalogue

THE Official Catalogue will be posted to those unable to attend the Exhibition, so as to bear the Exhibition postmark, to all sending a P.O. for 6d. to the Hon. Secretary, Exhibition Offices. Major E. B. Evans, R.A., has been good enough to write the preface to the catalogue, which will contain an interesting description of the exhibits, a list of exhibitors, donors to the funds, delegates to the Congress, prize winners in essay and album competitions, etc.

The "Lindenberg" Medal

THE Berlin Philatelic Club have awarded this medal to Mr. M. P. Castle for original work to aid the advancement of Philately.

The high honour has now been conferred on three British philatelists (Messrs. Evans, Bacon, and Castle), one Belgian (M. Hanclau), one German (Herr Theodor Haas), one Italian (Dr. E. Diena), and one Frenchman (Dr. Legrand).

The medal is awarded annually, and the wards are made by the votes of the members of the Committee of the Berlin Club and by the previous recipients.

I think that the flourishing state of real philatelic work in our country is well exemplified by the fact that three British writers of distinction have received this medal out of the first six awards.

I heartily congratulate Mr. Castle on the honour conferred upon him, and trust that for many years to come he will continue to enrich philatelic literature from his great store of experiences.

catalogue 1909. Part II

HIS Catalogue is now ready, and all prepaid orders were despatched by Wednesday, January 27 last.

Part I is in the press, but cannot be ready before March next.

Description of New Stock Books arranged and priced during the last week

Mauritius.

A VERY fine lot, including no less than one hundred and fifteen of the locally printed stamps, these including seven of the 2d. "large fillet" and a fine lot of the 1d. and

2d. Greek border. The issues of 1860 to 1878 have been very low in recent catalogues, and as we possessed a good stock of these stamps we, no doubt, did not appreciate them at anything like their true value. The result is that we have been selling out of these beautiful old stamps, and have only been able to replenish our stock at high prices, consequently these issues have been considerably increased in price.

The stamps of this country are in great demand, not only in Great Britain, but also in France (where there is practically no stock of the stamps) and the United States, and I think I can safely say that a considerable rise in value is bound to take place in these stamps in the near future.

Great Britain.

The second volume of the used stamps is now ready; it includes from the 1d. plate numbers (Cat. 42-44) to the 4d. small letters in corners (Cat. 79-80).

In this volume there is a grand lot of the 6d., 10d., and 1s., octagon, including a number of superb pairs, strips, and blocks. The 4d., with small, middle, and large garter, are also very fine, including many superb shades.

Many scarce varieties of postmarks are also included in this book.

The Postage Stamps of Belgium—*contd*

By CH. DE BONT

Issue of July, 1875.

[N] 1874, Belgium, like most other countries, was a party to the Berne treaty, dealing with the General Union of Posts; the object of the union was the establishment of uniform tariff for international correspond-



ence. The inauguration of the two new types of 25 and 50 centimes made it necessary to issue stamps of those values. The two additional values were authorized by the following ministerial decree, which was dated June 25, 1875:—

"THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS.

"In view of the treaty, dealing with the formation of a General Union of Posts, which was signed at Berne on October 9, 1874, and as ratified by the law of March 1, 1875, and particularly of paragraphs 2 and 3 of the said treaty:

"And in pursuance of the Royal Decree of November 13, 1869, authorizing the Minister of Public Works to fix the values and colours of postage stamps, and also the dates of their issue:

"And in pursuance of the Royal Decree of May 10, 1875, fixing the tariff in Belgium on correspondence carried abroad by the post, in accordance with the Treaty of Berne;

"BE IT DECREED:—

"1. On, and after, July 1 next, the public will be able to procure 25 and 50 centimes postage stamps, and 10 centimes international post cards; the colours will be as follows:—

"25 centimes stamp . . . yellow
"50 " " . . . grey

"Brussels, June 7, 1875.

"(Signed) A. BEERNAERT."

In design these stamps closely resemble those of the previous issue. They were surface-printed in colour on both thick and thin paper; in 1883 stamps of a different design were substituted for them.

The 25 centimes stamp.

Of this stamp there were five printings, comprising altogether 68,400,000 copies. The first three printings were as follows:—

First printing: olive-yellow, on thick paper.

Second printing: deep and light amber.

Third printing: ochre, on thin paper ; perf. 14.

A special vegetable ink was used for the two remaining printings, the result being, of course, fugitive colours ; the shades were *deep olive* and *pale olive*.

The following varieties are known :—

(i.) Olive, imperf.

(ii.) "CENDIMES" instead of "CENTIMES."

(iii.) "CENIUMES" , , "

The 50 centimes stamp.

There were four printings of the 50 c., making 4,380,000 copies ; as before, both thick and thin paper was used.

First printing: deep grey, on thick paper.

Second printing: black-grey , , "

Third printing: yellowish-grey, on thin paper.

Fourth printing: black-grey and dull grey (both fugitive colours), on thin paper.

The 50 c. is also known imperforate, but on horizontally laid paper.

REFERENCE LIST.

Medium paper. Perf. 15.

25 c., olive-brown, olive-yellow.

50 c., grey, pale grey, deep grey, blackish grey.

Thin paper. Perf. 15.

25 c., olive-brown, deep olive-brown, olive-yellow.

50 c., grey, deep grey, brownish grey.

Thin paper. Perf. 14.

25 c., olive-brown, olive-yellow.

Issue of April 1, 1878.



So that it might not be necessary to use a number of low-value stamps when the postage came to more than 5 francs for a single article, particularly in the case of insured packets, the Administration decided to issue a 5 franc stamp.

The following instructions were issued concerning the new stamp :—

"No. 1508.

"POST OFFICE, "TELEGRAPH DEPT.
No. 728. No. 508.

"Concerning the Issue of a 5 franc Stamp.

"March 14, 1878.

"By virtue of a Ministerial Decree, which is given lower down, the issue of a 5 franc stamp has been authorized for April 1 next.

"As the demand for this stamp will be limited to only offices of first, second, third, and fourth class, they will be provided with them, and such offices will receive their first supply during this month.

"Should these stamps be asked for at any other offices, they should be procured by the officer in charge from the nearest office stocking them, and should be paid for in cash : this on the understanding that if the stamps required cannot conveniently be requisitioned at the usual time when stamps are ordered : should these stamps be required especially urgently at any office where they are not stocked, but where it would appear that the needs of the service are such that they should be, the same may be specially requisitioned.

"Should any office receive a manifestly insufficient supply it is hardly necessary to say that more should be requisitioned immediately.

"In the book of account, numbered B 3, the 5 franc stamp should be entered in one of the spare columns provided for the purpose.

"The Director-General,
" (Signed) VINCENT."

"DECREE.

"THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS.

"In pursuance of the Royal Decree of November 13, 1869, authorizing the Minister of Public Works to fix the value, colour, and date of issue of postage stamps :—

"BE IT DECREED

"1. A 5 franc postage stamp, red-brown colour, will be issued to the general public on and after April 1 next.

"Brussels, March 6, 1878.

"(Signed) A. BEERNAERT."

This stamp was designed by Mr. Hendrickx and engraved by Mr. A. Dom. It was surface-printed in colour on white paper of varying thickness, the printing being most carefully carried out. The perforation gauged 15.

The head of Leopold II, turned to the left, in an oval frame, forms part of the design ; at the top the stamp is inscribed "BELGIQUE," and at the bottom "CINQ FRANCS" ; the figure "5" appears in the two upper corners.

Shades.

Red-brown, pale brown, deep red-brown.

The last-mentioned shade is in fugitive ink.

This stamp was primarily intended to be used on insured packets, but the demand was exceedingly small ; later on it was used to denote the receipt of money paid to the Post Office, and also for balancing the accounts of post offices, when money was paid up from the account of the Savings Bank Department. When used in connection with savings bank business this stamp was cancelled by means of a wheel.

There were three distinct printings of this stamp.

First printing.—February, 1878. Printed in Belgian ink on thick Chinese paper. 3,000 copies.

Red-brown.

Second printing.—June, 1878. Printed in ink manufactured by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., of London, on a thinner Chinese paper. 14,700 copies.

Pale red-brown.

The stamps of this printing were only supplied to a few first and second-class post offices. When the stock was entirely used up stamps of the first and third printings were used instead.

Third printing.—November, 1881. Printed in vegetable ink, giving fugitive colours, on slightly thicker paper. 11,400 copies.

Deep red-brown.

Most of the stamps of this printing were used in the post offices, as previously explained.

In 1883 certain regulations were amended so such a degree that there was no longer any use for a 5 franc stamp; the Administration therefore issued a Special Order, in November of the same year, suppressing it; but it was stipulated that the stamps still in stock at the various offices should be used up in the ordinary course of events.

Finally, a further order was issued in 1894, in which it was stated that the stamps would no longer be available after a certain date.

No. 221,
POST OFFICE.

No. 251,
TELEGRAPH DEPT.

"Concerning the demonetization of the 5 francs stamp after a certain date."

"September 6, 1894."

"A Royal Decree, dated August 5, 1894, which is given lower down, commands that the

5 franc postage stamp cease to be available for use after October 31 next.

"The Director-General
"of Telegraphs,
"F. DELARGE.

"For the Director-General
"of Posts,
"GARANT, PIERARD,
"Acting Heads of Departments."

"LEOPOLD II, KING OF THE BELGIANS,
"To all who are present, and to all who may
read—Greeting,

"Having duly considered the law of May 30, 1879, authorizing the Government to fix a date after which any stamp, post card, envelope, wrapper, or other formula shall cease to be available for postal use, whether such stamps, etc., be already issued, or will be issued at some future date; and also to determine the conditions under which the said stamps, etc., may be exchanged, or its value valued:—

"At the request of Our Minister of Railways, Posts, and Telegraphs:—

"WE HAVE DECREED AND DO DECREE:—

"1. After October 31 next the 5 franc postage stamp authorized by a Ministerial Decree, dated March 6, 1878, will no longer be available for postal use. Until that date any of the said stamps now in the possession of the public may be exchanged at any post office for stamps of the kinds in use.

"Our Minister of Railways, Posts, and Telegraphs is commanded to see to the observance of this Decree.

"Given at Ostend, August 5, 1894.

"LEOPOLD.

"By the King.
"The Minister of Railways,
"Posts, and Telegraphs.
(Signed) "J. Vandennepeereboom."

(*To be continued.*)

Shanghai—continued

Notes on the 1890-93 Issues

By BERTRAM W. H. POOLE

THE 2 CENTS VALUE.

THE first stone made for the 2 c. was, so far as I have been able to ascertain, only used in the production of this value on the unwatermarked paper. There are five types of this value arranged on the sheet as follows:—

I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I
2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5

The five types are as follows:—

TYPE I.—There is a coloured line across the upper curve of the "2" in the left lower corner, and the solid colour below the "2" in the opposite corner encroaches on the figure. There is a minute coloured dot on the "P" of "POST," and there is a large pear-shaped spot at the base between the two right-hand characters below the central shield.

TYPE II.—There are a number of coloured dots smudged around the Chinese characters under the Arms. There are tiny coloured dots on the "HA" of "SHANGHAI" and the curved line above, there is a minute un-

coloured dot after "SHANGHAI," and a long coloured line is shown outside the right-hand frame line.

TYPE III.—Several minute coloured dots appear on the "2" in the left lower corner, and similar dots are shown upon the "1" of "SHANGHAI" and "S" of "POST." There is a tiny spot of colour outside the right-hand frame line about $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm. from the base.

TYPE IV.—There are two small coloured dots under the "S" of "CENTS," and there is a smudge of colour above the central shield. There are minute coloured dots on the "O" of "LOCAL" and the "N" of "SHANGHAI."

TYPE V.—There are coloured dots on the "C" of "LOCAL" and the "O" of "POST." There is a tiny uncoloured dot before the second "A" of "SHANGHAI," and a similar dot is attached to the line above and to the right of the first "A" of the same word. The right leg of the first "A" of "SHANGHAI" is joined to the line below, and a coloured line is attached to the outside of the right frame in a corresponding position to the dot in Type III.

In addition to these types the following flaws occur on all sheets of this setting:—

No. 3.—There is a large uncoloured dot before the "2" in the left lower corner.

No. 7.—There is a large uncoloured dot after the D-shaped character in the upper right-hand spandrel.

No. 14.—The coloured line above the "P" of "POST" is broken.

No. 21.—A large coloured flaw extends from the base of the second "L" in "LOCAL" to the top of the "N" of "CENTS."

No. 26.—There is a coloured dot between the letters "NT" of "CENTS."

No. 33.—A large uncoloured flaw appears on the space between the words "LOCAL POST."

No. 49.—There is an uncoloured dot after the "P" of "POST."

No. 50.—The first "L" in "LOCAL" is blurred, making it impossible to distinguish the outline of the letter.

* * *

The second stone.—This stone was probably brought into use fairly early in 1892 (or late in 1891), and was employed for printing all the 2 c. on watermarked paper, perf. 12, both in brown and green. There are ten types on this stone, all differing from that of the 2 c. no wmk., which are arranged on the sheet as follows:—

1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2
3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4
5	6	5	6	5	6	5	6	5	6
7	8	7	8	7	8	7	8	7	8
9	10	9	10	9	10	9	10	9	10

The ten types are as follows:—

TYPE I.—A large coloured dot is attached to the right side of the "T" of "CENTS" near the base. The top petal of the flower in the right lower spandrel is almost obliterated by the encroachment of the coloured background.

TYPE II.—The "C" of "CENTS" is joined to the solid colour on the left, and a coloured line extends from below the "2" in the lower left corner to the border.

TYPE III.—A coloured dot is joined to the line under the "C" of "CENTS." The end of the "C" of "LOCAL" nearly joins, and there is a tiny coloured dot on the base of the upright stroke of the B-shaped character on the shield.

TYPE IV.—There is a coloured dot on the line above and to the left of the "G" of "SHANGHAI," and another on the uncoloured border line at the base, about 1 mm. from the left corner.

TYPE V.—There is a tiny coloured dot on the lower curve of the B-shaped character in the shield, another on the white line above the first "L" of "LOCAL," and another under the right-hand part of the shield.

TYPE VI.—There is a small coloured dot on the top curve of the "2" in the lower left corner, and a small uncoloured flaw on the triangular patch of colour in the same corner.

TYPE VII.—There is a minute coloured dot above and to the right of the "T" of "CENTS," and a large spot of colour appears in the space between the chin and forepaw of the dragon on the right of the shield.

TYPE VIII.—The ends of the "C" of "CENTS" have been cut off, making the letter very open, and there is a coloured dot outside the left frame line about 5 mm. from the top corner.

TYPE IX.—There is a small coloured dot on the top of the "2" in the left-hand corner, and another is attached to the line below the "T" of "CENTS."

TYPE X.—The bottom frame line is broken under the space between the "CE" of "CENTS," and the top of the "2" in the right lower corner is bent inwards by the encroachment of the surrounding colour. There were apparently two printings from this stone, and entire sheets of these can be distinguished by the absence or presence of various flaws, viz.:—

Printing (a).

No. 1.—There is a large circular uncoloured flaw on the line below "LOCAL" joining the letters "CA" of that word at the base.

*No. 6.—The Chinese characters in the upper right-hand corner are almost obliterated by a large coloured "blob" in an uncoloured space.

No. 9.—There is an uncoloured flaw in the top left-hand corner.

*No. 23.—There is a large "blob" of colour on a white ground in place of the body of the dragon on the right of the shield.

No. 37.—There is an uncoloured flaw on the end of the Chinese character above the second "H" of "SHANGHAI."

No. 40.—The lower left portion of the "2" in the bottom left corner is joined to the line below.

No. 43.—There is an uncoloured circular dot under the "A" of "LOCAL."

No. 44.—The "2" in the lower left corner is joined to the line below.

Printing (b).

In this printing none of the above-named flaws occur, but instead the following may be found :—

*No. 14.—There is a large uncoloured flaw with a thick line in the centre on the Chinese characters above the first "A" of SHANGHAI."

No. 26.—There is a large uncoloured circular dot on the top of the "S" of SHANGHAI."

I have found both the above printings in the 2 cents, brown on white paper, and the 5 cents, green, except that in the case of the green stamps the flaws marked * do not

appear. There is little doubt that these three flaws were caused by the presence of small pieces of dirt on the printing stone; but, curiously enough, they occurred on all the sheets of the respective printings of the 2 c., brown, shown me by Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

The third stone.—This stone differs from the previous one only so far as Type VII is concerned. The dot between the chin and forepaw of the right-hand dragon, which is such a prominent feature on Type VII on the second stone, hardly shows at all, but instead there is a distinct break in the coloured line above the "E" of "CENTS." It is thus highly probable that the same block of ten transfers was utilized in making both stones, and that the additional flaw was caused by some slight accident. I have only found the 2 c., brown on *buff*, printed from this stone, so it was probably in use before the one described above.

I find there were two printings, which can only be distinguished in the case of entire sheets by the absence or presence of flaws as below :—

Printing (a).

No. 4.—The top end of the "G" of "SHANGHAI" is cut away.

No. 7.—There is an uncoloured flaw on the top of the large Chinese character above the second "H" of "SHANGHAI."

Printing (b).

In this printing neither of the above flaws is shown, but the following appears :—

No. 39.—There is a large uncoloured flaw on the Chinese character above the "N" of "SHANGHAI."

(*To be continued.*)

Commemorative Issues

W. J. W.

Viewing a general collection of postage stamps one is sure to notice that a great number are issued to celebrate great events in the history of countries or honour of persons who have done great things for them. Of course, when a ruler dies it is only to be expected that stamps bearing his portrait should be superseded by others bearing the likeness of his successor. Similarly, if a country passes to new owners it may anticipate a surcharge of the current stamp or the issue of new ones to celebrate the event.

It is the purpose of this article, however, to deal chiefly with issues which are commemorative of events other than these. Principally these are to celebrate important

discoveries, the founding of colonies, long reigns, and other notable historical events.

The great discovery to be commemorated is, of course, that of America by Columbus in 1492. The four-hundredth anniversary of this important discovery was celebrated by the issuing of sets of stamps by several American countries, including the United States, the Argentine and Dominican Republics, Venezuela, Salvador, Nicaragua, Honduras, Porto Rico, and Grenada.

Further discoveries and settlements in America were also brought to mind by commemorative stamps, notably Cabot's discovery of Newfoundland in 1497; the exploration of the coast of Brazil in 1500 by Pedro Alvarez Cabral, a Portuguese naviga-

tor; and the colonization of St. Lucia and St. Domingo in 1502, the respective lands issuing stamps in honour of the quatre-centenary of these events. Later we have the acquisition of Barbados in 1605, and the founding of Quebec in 1608, necessitating the issue of new stamps in commemoration of their three-hundredth anniversary.

Passing from American discoveries, perhaps the next important are those of Vasco da Gama, the Portuguese navigator who set sail in 1498, and discovered the Cape of Good Hope and sea route to India. Due honour is accorded him by the 1898 issues of Portugal and her colonies. A still earlier Portuguese sailor was Don Henry, son of John I, born in 1394, who furnished several expeditions for the discovery of new lands, and whose memory was perpetuated by a special issue in 1894.

In 1888 a series of stamps was issued by New South Wales to commemorate the centenary of its colonization. New South Wales was discovered by Captain Cook in 1770, but it was not colonized till 1788, when Captain Arthur Phillips was appointed the first Governor of New South Wales. In the set the portraits of both are depicted. On the new Commonwealth stamps the date of the founding of each colony is given.

During the "Opium War" with China in January, 1841, the British took possession of Hong Kong, the fiftieth anniversary of which event was celebrated by a stamp being surcharged "Hong Kong Jubilee, 1841-1891."

Barbados thought that the victory of Nelson at Trafalgar in 1805 should be kept in mind by a series of stamps which were issued one hundred years later.

Holland in the same way perpetuated the memory of Admiral de Ruyter in 1907, the three-hundredth anniversary of his birth; and similarly, many other countries have endeavoured to keep fresh the memory of their great men.

The Balkan Peninsula has provided several commemorative issues. In 1896 we have the celebration of the freeing of Montenegro from the Turks by Danilo Petrovic in 1696; 1901 was the twenty-fifth year of Bulgaria's freedom from Turkish rule; and 1906 saw twenty-five years' existence of Roumania as a kingdom. Each of these events occasioned a new issue of stamps, and a 1902 issue for Bulgaria celebrated the defence of Shipka Pass in 1877. Another in 1907 commemorated the twentieth year of the reign of Prince Ferdinand, while the baptism of his heir, Prince Boris, in 1896, was an opportunity for new stamps in honour of the occasion. The centenary of the Karageorgevitch dynasty was celebrated by Servia in 1904 by the issue of the so-called "Death Mask" stamps. Montenegro in 1893 made a surcharge to commemorate the

printing of the first book in Montenegro in 1493, and again in 1905 upon the granting of a constitution. By issues of stamps Roumania has twice commemorated the long reign of King Charles, who was elected Prince in 1866, and was proclaimed King in 1881. The issues celebrated the twenty-fifth and fortieth years of his reign.

Speaking of the celebration of long reigns brings us to that of Queen Victoria. At the Diamond Jubilee several of our colonies issued new stamps in honour of such a long and glorious reign. Austria, too, recently issued a new set of stamps in commemoration of the sixty years' reign of Francis Joseph I. In 1903 a stamp was issued for Korea also, to celebrate the fortieth anniversary of the coronation of the Emperor. Japan issued stamps in 1892 in honour of the Silver Wedding of the Emperor and Empress, and in 1900 commemorated the Prince Imperial's wedding in the same manner.

Great Britain's only commemorative issue was the Jubilee Envelope, issued on July 2, 1890, and used on that day only, to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the establishment of the Penny Post in England. The introduction of penny postage was also commemorated by the Transvaal in 1895, while Canada at Christmas, 1898, issued its first stamp to celebrate the establishment of penny postage with the Mother Country. In 1900 Switzerland issued a Postal Union Jubilee set.

Spain, in 1905, the tercentenary of the writing of the *Adventures of Don Quixote* by Cervantes, honoured the writer and his book by issuing a set of stamps bearing the portrait of Cervantes and designs representing adventures of Don Quixote.

Exhibitions have on several occasions served to bring forward a new issue of stamps. The Omaha, Buffalo, St. Louis, Jamestown, Antwerp, Brussels, Christchurch, and Bucharest Exhibitions were all advertised in this way; but the Franco-British Exhibition has not provided us with a commemorative stamp, although the Olympic Games have twice been depicted on the stamps of Greece.

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Submerged Philately

The Waste-paper Picker's Story

By W. WARD

I HAVE several times given examples of different characteristics of our hobby in the different spheres of life. Most of us just take up the threads of Philately by a warm fireside on a blustery, cold evening, in order to complete a set, or insert a new stamp here or there, we consult a dealer's list, procure the necessary P.O.O., and mail the order to him. If the dealer is a business-like "professor," "your esteemed favour" comes to hand by return of post. You stick a mount to your purchase, affix in your "Imperial," and the matter is at an end. Or maybe you already have an approval selection by your side, and just transfer the required specimens. But that is neither here nor there. What I want to get at is whether the collector ever ponders and thinks of the history of a used stamp, the number of hands it passes through before it finally reaches its resting-place—for some time to be—in a nice clean album. And they are not all clean hands it is fingered by, to use a Hibernianism!

Knowing the part that scavengers of sweepings and emptyings of office waste-paper baskets in the City play in giving a Philatea a goodly number of her, sometimes, gems, to be finally purchased or "swopt" by all classes and ages of collectors, as well as replenishing many a business stock book, I thought I should like to investigate the life of these submerged "philatelists," for has not controversial correspondence informed us that a philatelist is one who collects stamps, whether for profit or amusement?

So minded, I trotted round to a back street in which I knew I could locate a rag, paper, and marine store. Coming to my destination, and finally plucking up my courage, as well as nose—for these establishments are hardly akin to a perfumer's—I strode in. After waiting several minutes, and giving a few guffaws to attract attention to my existence as a waiting customer, a middle-aged man suddenly appeared from a dark corner. You would hardly have said "Good morning, have you used Pears' soap?" to him; but then, clean features are not so necessary in a marine warehouse as in a smart Burlington Arcade shop. "Stamps? Had none to-day. Come on Monday," was the first remark spoken. I had not even breathed—the atmosphere did not allow of it. Still, by some unaccountable sixth sense—or perhaps one to replace the sense of smell—the paper dealer could tell that

I was after stamps. Anyway, I soon explained the cause of my visit, and asked him whether he could give me any particulars of the stamp-collecting part of his business, and the finds he had had. He informed me that he could hardly give me the desired information, as he only dealt in waste paper, rags, etc., those articles being collected by men and women who visited the business part of the town in the early hours of the morning to scour the bins outside offices. Now and again he got stamps, but the majority of his "sorters" sold them direct to the stamp dealers. Could he give me an introduction to one of the "pickers"? Yes; but I must come again in the morning, about nine o'clock. Thanking him, and assuring him I should turn up the following day at the time he mentioned, I was just about to depart, when he called me back. "You mustn't come in those," he said, pointing to my attire. "If you do, you will never get to know anything—they'll think you are a 'tec'" [detective]. I might explain here that these early morning prowlers are not altogether law-abiding citizens. It is to be said for them that in their ignorance and lowness they know no better. Probably the only thing that keeps them in order is the fear of punishment.

Accordingly, I was round again at the "Stores" just before nine o'clock arrayed in the oldest suit of clothes I could find and a large cap, in order to allay any suspicion that might prevent my gaining any information I wanted. I arrived just as an aged and dirty old dame had deposited an enormous sack of old wrapping-paper upon the floor of the establishment, and had entered into a lively debate as to whether it was worth fourpence or sixpence. The proprietor, evidently as cute, gave her the former sum, and politely, more or less, told her to "Shut it!"—evidently alluding to her toothless mouth. "See, there is a gent as wants to speak to yer, ma," he said, pointing to me. From the look I got I knew my disguise was futile. Even when my friend the proprietor assured her I was "safe," she evidently was not one of the "philatelists," because she knew nothing about stamps. I was therefore advised to seek "information" from any I might see about the business quarter of the town. Making my way to a part where there are a lot of shipping houses congregated, I soon discovered another ancient lady almost entirely covered by a large sack, as I had seen before in the

shop, which was very dirty and filled almost to bursting point with old paper. She was bent over one of the familiar corrugated-iron office waste-bins at the edge of the pavement. Sidling up to the lady, I inquired, with as much ungrammar as I could think of at the moment. "Had much luck in finding any of them old foreign stamps this morning?" All I got in reply was a mutter, which I concluded was a command to wait until she had finished fishing in the bin. I meekly subsided to await her ladyship's pleasure. Some two or three pieces of torn packing paper, and sundry varied lengths of string, were conveyed, by a wonderful contortionist movement, to the sack on her back. Then several envelopes, bearing specimens of Continental stamps, had the latter torn from their corners. These were thrust into a smaller sort of patchwork-quilt handbag, slung from her waist. This bag already seemed full of what I presumed were stamps. My surmise, I afterwards found, was correct.

Finishing her task, she turned to me, "weighed" me fully, seemed to ponder for a moment, and then asked, "What's yer gime?" Vouching my complete disconnection with the constabulary and civil legislation in general, as well as having no desire to chaff her, I hinted that it would be to her monetary advantage to initiate me into some of the secrets of her profession. I was viewed a little more favourably. "Yer not a ferret, and yer not being after taking a poor old woman's business from her?" Once more I professed good intentions, but informed her that I bought old stamps, and should not be adverse to adding a little further remuneration if she informed me as to some of her philatelic finds, and how she disposed of them. "So yer one of the gents as klects old furrin stamps? Yer wants ter know what I does wid 'em? Now I allays wondered what you fellers does wid 'em, and why yer should be so particular about 'em not being the very little bit torn. Not as I minds, as I gets sometimes more in a day for furrin stamps than I gets in two for old papper. Been long at the job? Aye, child and woman this nigh fifty year—that's a dealing in old papper, string, and other bits as I finds among the emptying and cleaning of offices. Course I never use ter think about old stamps a 'aving any vally. How did I find out the vally?—Well, sir, I don't mind if I does, es I 'aven't 'ad a bite sin' last night," in response to my offer to adjourn to a coffee tavern in the locality. Though I did this partly out of bribery, in order to further "grease the way" better, I had an eye to the streets rapidly filling with people—and how could I explain the situation should an acquaintance chance along?

My invitation to a meat pie, rather than a

chunk of bread and margarine, with the mug of tea, brought forth the estimation "Ye're a toff, sir!"—though only after I had paid which had now vanished. "As I were saying I didn't always think old furrin stamps 'ad any vally, but one day 'bout twenty years ago, if I reckon right, a particular friend o' mine—a cousin of me brother-in-law's wife to be krect—a told me as she 'ad found out as a man in — street 'ad a shop where he sold naught else but furrin stamps, and that he had give her a tanner [6d.] fer some she had took 'im."

"Course she worked another lay to me, else she wouldn't 'ave told me of 'im. At first I thought it was only a bit of 'er kid, and was a bit flummoxed at going into the shop with a 'andful of stamps I 'ad got. When I sees a 'ole lot of furrin stamps in the windy, I goes in, and arks the gent as was behind the counter, never 'e bought old stamps, and 'anded my little lot to 'im. Arter going through 'em 'e sniffs, an' says they were very dirty, but he would give me a 'joey' [3d.] for 'em. What? Did I take? Well, I should think I did—why that's as much as I would get for 'arf a 'undred of wrappings [half-hundredweight of large flat second-hand pieces of brown paper]. When 'e give me the three browns, 'e says if they 'ad been cleaner 'e would 'ave give me a tanner—'e said sixpence. 'You should keep them in paper, or a bag,' 'e tells me, 'an I 'ave done so ever since. Aye, I've taken 'undreds of old stamps to that gent—but the poor felly deed three year ago. 'E once give me as much as 'arf a quid [half a sovereign] for a lot I got out of some rubbitch, as was being cleared out of an old lawyer's office, as 'ad sold up, 'aving gone bust. Course I don't always get anything as much as that, but as I doesn't know the vally of stamps, I 'as ter take what they gives me. It sometimes a puzzles me why the man I now takes all my old stamps to will give me maybe two bob [2s.] for about twenty, and another day only a tanner for two 'undred. Course I know some is 'arder to get than others, but I can't understand 'em at all. What kind of places I gets the most stamps from? Well, them offices as buys these 'ere furrin eggs and bacon, then those that sell this 'ere fangled machinery to savage parts. I use ter save the English stamps, but no one would buy 'em. 'Ow much do I want for those I 'ave found this morning?—well, give me what yer can spare—there's about a 'undred. A tanner! I'll take a bob—well, go on, yer can 'ave 'em fer ninepence an' they're dirt cheap." This was in reply to my offer of sixpence. The old lady was no novice in getting full and utmost value where she could. The result of my "bag" was exactly eighty-four stamps, consisting of forty-four

French, Dutch, German, Swiss, and Belgian, eight Cuban, fourteen Javan, two U.S.A., two Nicaragua (both 50 c., new surcharge), two Malta, three India with Persian postmarks, two Malay, two Straits Settlements including a 30 c., and one each Russian and German, China, Gibraltar, Dominican Republic, and Argentine (1 peso).

So it is evident that a good assortment of stamps can be picked up out of office sweepings. In these days of enlightenment, however, a great majority of the better and scarcer stamps of current issues are secured by the

heads of the firms, their clerks, or last, but by no means least keen, the office boys. Perhaps it is better that we do not associate our stamps with these submerged characters who make a miserable living out of the garbage of the streets. Those philatelists socialistically inclined are of course fully at liberty to pay these people full catalogue, or more, for any stamps. But how can a philatelist—or indeed a collector of anything—be a socialist? If anybody with a decent specialized collection is, I'm ready to have my share!

British Stamps used Abroad—concluded

By I. J. BERNSTEIN AND CHAS. NISSEN

A PART from the regular post offices established by the British Government and dealt with in the preceding chapters, post boxes are maintained on board all ocean-going steamers. On British ships British stamps are sold by the purser. On the high seas, that is to say, beyond three miles from the shore, a letter may be posted franked with stamps of the country to which the ship belongs, and it will be conveyed to its destination. Immediately, however, the boat arrives within the three-mile limit the box must be closed, and letters must be sent ashore to be franked with stamps of the particular country in the waters of which the ship happens to be. At the present time these letters with British stamps are usually marked "Posted on the High Seas," but sometimes they only bear the postmark of the port at which they are landed. Hence it is possible to find British stamps with such marks as Aden, Colombo, Port Said, Barbados, etc.

One finds, too, British stamps with postmarks of many nations, but these are merelyurious, and occur only when the stamp has escaped cancellation on despatch. In such cases they are defaced, either by penmark or the local obliterator, on arrival at their

destination, and are on an entirely different footing from those dealt with so far.

In very many of the post offices abroad, particularly those that existed for any length of time, the obliterations became worn and were replaced by others which in practically every case differed either in shape, size, or some other detail. The writers have not attempted to differentiate between these various types—which in some cases, such as at Malta, number at least seven varieties—but have dealt with the general type only. As in most cases our obliterator superseded the other, certain types are usually found on certain plate numbers, and to those who care to specialize in "Used Abroad," a field is open for determining the actual date when various postmarks passed in and out of service.

As was only natural, a number of hitherto unchronicled varieties have been found since the interest in these offices has been aroused.

Also a number of errors have crept into these articles despite the care that has been expended in verifying every detail. These we will endeavour to correct, and the necessary additions will be made when these articles are collected into book form.

Our New Zealand Letter

By N. Z.

SINCE my last notes I am afraid I have no startling news to write; but Philately is still very much alive in this Dominion. New collectors are continually being attracted into the fold, and very few old ones give the "hobby" best.

New Zealand values above 1d. get scarcer and scarcer; indeed, 2s. and 5s. used are absolute curiosities.

Machines are being used more and more. I hear that over thirty more will be installed in some Dunedin big establishments during

the next few weeks, and these big offices and banks are the places where high values are mostly used.

I do not think Officials will last much longer. The large-size 3d., 6d., and 1s. must go out soon in any case.

Our New Zealand society seems very dead. It seems to be following on the lines of some of the big English ones, and of late has shown few signs of vitality. Let us hope it will revive to its old glory under new officials. It has done a lot of good in the past.

In a recent number of a contemporary I notice a paragraph that our Official 2os. was quite unnecessary. This stamp is absolutely required for postage on bulk lots of official correspondence and circulars. I have also seen two or three copies on foreign correspondence. It cannot possibly have been printed for sale to collectors, as unused

Officials are not supposed to be sold to the public, though a good many leak out.

Our recent reduction in rates of postage has made certain values, formerly fairly common, very scarce in a used state, notably 1½d., 2½d., 5d., 9d., the latter two values especially so; on the other hand the 8d. is more used than of old.

Foreign Notes

By FRANK PHILLIPS

New Hebrides

THE New Hebrides Islands form an Anglo-French Condominium, and both France and Great Britain maintain post offices in the islands. France was the first to issue a set of special postage stamps; the issue took place about July, 1908, and was chronicled in *G.S.W.* dated November 7 last; the stamps are those of New Caledonia, overprinted with the words "NOUVELLES HÉBRIDES" in two lines on the small stamps and in a single line on the long rectangular stamps.

According to *L'Echo de la Timbrologie*, the numbers printed were exceedingly small, the actual figures being as follows:—

5 c.	.	.	.	.	12,000
10 c.	.	.	.	.	30,000
25 c.	.	.	.	.	30,000
50 c.	.	.	.	.	12,000
1 fr.	.	.	.	.	3,000

The British Post Office followed the lead of the French somewhere about November last, seven values of the Fiji stamps having been overprinted "NEW HÉBRIDES—CONDONIUM"; these were chronicled in *G.S.W.* dated January 16.

Our contemporary states the British stamps may be obtained at the French Post Offices if specially asked for, and that letters franked with the British stamps are also accepted for transmission by the French offices, such stamps being obliterated with the French postmark, which is illustrated below.

NEW HEBRIDES

CONDONIUM

(Surcharge.)

(Postmark.)



It is not often that such an anomalous case comes to one's notice. I suppose that it is all the outcome of the existing *entente cordiale*.

The numbers printed of the British stamps are given by our contemporary as follows:—

½d.	:	:	:	.	12,000
1d.	:	:	:	.	30,000

2d.	.	.	.	.	30,000
2½d.	.	.	.	.	30,000
5d.	.	.	.	.	12,000
6d.	.	.	.	.	6,000
1s.	.	.	.	.	3,000

Bardsey's King

Few people are aware that King Edward's royal brother exists in the person of the King of the island of Bardsey, which situate nearly two miles off Llyn Point, in Carnarvonshire. This tiny kingdom preserves entire independence, and does not recognize the authority of the British Government. The population counts but seventy-seven persons, including the King and Queen, whose ancestors have reigned over the island from times immemorial. The language is a kind of dialect totally unintelligible to the ordinary Englishman. The King, besides exercising the functions of his office, is also doctor, schoolmaster, and policeman; he has never taken any oath of allegiance to King Edward. The inhabitants live frugally on rye bread, milk, and butter; the rocks surrounding the island furnish them with an inexhaustible supply of lobsters, which they sell to visitors at ridiculously cheap prices. No interest is taken in the island in the world's affairs, and no newspaper ever penetrates its isolation. Never have the people of Bardsey known the meaning of taxes, and they have no set of stamps which would make the existence of the tiny kingdom known all the world over.

La Revue Française des Collectionneurs

Tunis

L'Annonce Timbrologique gives the following as the quantities of the surcharge stamps issued in September, 1908:—

1,009,950	.	10 c. on 15 c.
61,200	.	35 c. on 1 fr.
51,000	.	40 c. on 2 fr.
44,850	.	75 c. on 5 fr.

It is really astonishing how many more of the lowest value are required than of any of the other values, or of all of them put together for that matter. The above figure may be regarded as official, as they are given on the authority of the official organ of the Tunisian Postal Service.

New Issues and Discoveries

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Abyssinia.—In our stock we have lately found two interesting varieties, which we list below.



መልካም

4

1.60

6

1905. Type 1 surcharged as Type 6, in pink (P.).
Variety. Surcharge inverted.

73d[20 on 1 g., blue (P.).]

The 1 g. (Type 1 overprinted with Type 4, in blue-black),
surcharged as Type 6, in blue.

Variety. "o 5" inverted.

84a[5 on 1 g., green (No. 36) (B.).]

According to *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* (15.1.09),
the whole of the 1894 set of postage stamps has
been overprinted, as illustrated below, for use as
Postage Dues.



25

POSTAGE DUE STAMPS. DECEMBER, 1908. Types 1 (1/2 to
2 guerche) and 2 overprinted with Type 25, in black (?).

- 241 ½ g., green.
- 242 2 g., red.
- 243 1 g., blue.
- 244 2 g., brown.
- 245 4 g., claret.
- 246 8 g., mauve.
- 247 16 g., black.

Cayman Islands.—According to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (23.1.09), the 1d. on 4d.
provisional stamp exists with the surcharge inverted,
which is not to be wondered at, considering
that it was applied by hand.

This stamp is not purely a fiscal, as has been
rumoured of late in the philatelic press; it is
true that many were used for fiscal purposes, but
quite a number of them also paid postage. The
illustration of the surcharge is not very exact; in
the original it is much thicker.



10

12

1908. Type 9 surcharged as Type 12, in black.
1d. on 4d., black and red on yellow, C.
Variety. Surcharge inverted.
1d. on 4d., black and red on yellow, C.

Fernando Poo.—We have seen copies of the
50 c. surcharged on the 10 c., brown, of 1894, in
black, instead of in blue.



3-4

1896-99. Type 4 surcharged with Type 3. (b). In black.
32d[50 c. on 10 c., brown.

Kiautschou.—Mr. A. W. Tyrrell has shown
us a copy of the 20 cents stamp on "Lozenge"-
watermarked paper.



9

1908. Type 9. Frame in second colour. Wmk.
Lozenges, as Type c4. Perf. 14.
78[20 c., black and carmine.

New Zealand.—Messrs. Wilcox, Smith, and
Co. have shown us quite a new 1d. stamp, which
is overprinted "OFFICIAL" vertically upwards,
in black. The stamp itself is similar in appear-
ance to its predecessor, but many details show
slight points of difference, due to the fact that
the new stamp is surface-printed, instead of line-
engraved as formerly. Needless to remark, a
new plate must have been made, but where,
when, or by whom we do not know.

The paper used for the stamp appears to be
unwatermarked, but it closely resembles thin,
hard Cowan papers; perhaps it has a slightly
better surface. The perforation is the work of
the new comb machine, gauging 14×15.

The overprint "OFFICIAL" is clearer and sharper
than it was before, and has the appearance of
having been printed from an electro-typed plate.



40

OFFICIAL

83

OFFICIAL STAMP. 1908. Type 40, surface-printed (with
heavier lines of shading in background), overprinted
with Type 83, vertically upwards, in black. No
wmk. Perf. 14×15 (comb machine).
1d., carmine.

South Australia.—Baron A. de Worms has shown us the 1868-74 1d. overprinted "O.S." twice, one of the overprints being sideways.



6

O.S.

5¹

OFFICIAL STAMP. Type 6 overprinted as Type 5¹, in black. Wmk. Crown and SA (close), Type 13.

(a) Perf. 10.

Variety. (vi.) "O.S." double, one sideways.
580a 1d., blue-green.

Spanish Guinea.—We have received copies of the 10 c. of the current type, overprinted as No. 204 of Fernando Poo.



4

HABILITADO
PARA
05 CTMS

5

1908. Type 4 overprinted with Type 5, in black.
60 | 5 c. on 10 c., bistre.

Tasmania.—We have received the 1d. with Crown and double-lined A watermark, the perforation gauging both 11 and 12½. The stamps perforated 11 are in two quite distinct shades.



22

DECEMBER, 1908. Type 22. Wmk. Crown and A,
Type 33.

(a) Perf. 12½.

217a 1d., deep green.

(b) Perf. 11.

220a 1d., green.

229b 1d., sage-green.

Tchongking.—In our stock we have found several varieties to be added to those given in our Catalogue.

TCHONGKING**四之五仙**6¹

1903-4. Type 4 of Indo-China overprinted as Type 6¹ in black. Varieties. (iii.) Overprint inverted.

A669a 4 (c.), purple-brown on grey.
A669b 5 (c.), pale green.
A669c 10 (c.), rose-red.

(iv.) Chinese characters double.
A669d 30 (c.), cinnamon on drab.
A669e 75 (c.), brown on orange.

(v.) Value in Chinese omitted; "TCHONGKING" inverted.
A669f 1 (c.), black on azure.

Tonga.—Amongst the ordinary varieties the ½d. on 1d., ultramarine, in our stock, we have found a single unused copy without any surcharge. This error must be a very great rarity.



4

1893. Type 4. Perf. 12½. Error. With surcharge "½d." omitted.
24a 1d., ultramarine

Transvaal.—According to *The Postage Stamp* (23.1.09), the 5s. has at last been issued on multiple-watermarked paper, but our contemporary omits to mention the class of paper. In Ewen's list it is given as on ordinary paper.



45

DECEMBER, 1908. Type 45. Centre in first colour.
Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A. Perf. 14.
57 1 5s., black and mauve on yellow, O.

Correspondence**Correction**

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

DEAR SIR,—Referring to my article on "Postage-Stamp Papers" which appeared in your issue dated January 23. On page 55, column one, about the fortieth line, the line

which reads "upon which are affixed at regular intervals the devices of the watermark punched out of steel" should read "punched out of sheet brass by means of steel dies."

Yours faithfully,

W. B. ARMSTRONG.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

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VOL. IX.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

Grenada—continued

GROUP I (a)—continued.

ALL subsequent deliveries of the 1d. and 6d. stamps were upon paper watermarked with a six-rayed star, either "large" or "small." An excellent explanation of the differences between the two is given in the introductory pages of the Catalogue, Part I, but students who desire fuller details should consult the handbook on Barbados.* The "large star" paper was introduced by Perkins Bacon and Co. at the commencement of 1854, and was first used by them for the 1855 South Australian stamps, and subsequently employed for all countries where the stamps and plates were the same in shape and size as the above issues. The "small star" was specially manufactured for the first stamps of Queensland, and afterwards generally used for countries having similarly sized stamps. In some cases, owing to the exigencies of supply, the two classes of paper were not used in accordance with the above descriptions, both classes being occasionally employed for the same-sized stamps. Thus it is with Grenada. From 1863 to 1871 the consignments were on "small star" paper, in 1873 both "small" and "large" were used, in 1875 "large" only, whilst finally, from 1878 to 1881, "small" was again supplied. Collectors who may be in doubt upon which "star" a particular stamp is printed can generally settle the matter by measuring the perforation or comparing the shades.

A good deal of the interest attaching to the stamps of this period is connected with the varying perforation, which comprises that effected (i.) by guillotine machine, 14 to 16, rough; (ii.) by guillotine, about 15, clean cut; (iii.) by Somerset House comb machine 14, large holes; and (iv.) by guillotine

gauging 14 $\frac{1}{4}$, a perforation peculiar to Grenada stamps. Full and interesting details of all these perforations are given in the handbook on Grenada, referred to in the first instalment of this article.

For general collectors perhaps a collection by means of shades is equally good, for if the distinctive ones are obtained, striking examples of the varying watermarks and perforations will also have been acquired. It is not feasible to go further into these particulars here, but the list given below embraces quite a representative selection. There were numerous printings of the 6d. between 1863 and 1874, no doubt called for by the increased demand for stamps of that denomination, caused by the rising of the letter rate home in 1863, after which date every letter to Great Britain required two stamps to pay the postage.



1863-81. Wmk. Star. Perf.
Unused. Used.

		s.	d.	s.	d.
1d., deep green (1864)	.	5	0	1	6
1d., blue-green (1873)	:	17	6	4	0
1d., yellow-green (1875)	:	17	6	3	0
6d., rose (1863)	:	50	0	4	6
6d., orange-vermilion (1873)	:	60	0	10	0
6d., bright vermilion (1878)	:	50	0	4	0

GROUP I (b).

On May 28, 1875, Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co. sent out a large number of fiscal stamps to Grenada. There were twelve values required in all, viz. 1d., 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 9d., 1s., 2s., 5s., 10s., and 20s., and to save the expense of providing a number of separate plates, the quantity of stamps re-

* *Barbados*. Stanley Gibbons Philatelic Handbooks, No. 5. By E. D. Bacon and F. H. Napier. Prices: paper cover, 7s. 6d., post-free 7s. 10d., abroad, 7s. 11d.; gilt cloth, 10s. 6d., post-free 10s. 10d., abroad, 11s.

quired were all printed in the same colour, *orange*, from a single plate, and were then overprinted with a "Crown" and the necessary value in words in *green*. The plate used was of the same size as the plates of the one penny and sixpence, i.e. 120 stamps in ten horizontal rows of twelve. The stamps have no inscribed values, and were printed upon the "large star" paper and perforated 14 by the Somerset House comb machine. It is useful to get these particulars on record here, as for the next group some of these stamps were utilized for the manufacture of provisionals.

A shilling value had long been in demand for postal purposes, and when the above stamps were printed the opportunity was taken of providing this denomination.

A special printing of 60,000 stamps in *deep mauve* was made from the same plate, etc., and these were overprinted with the words "POSTAGE—ONE SHILLING," in *black*. The overprinted words were separately set up in type for every stamp, and practically most of the 120 stamps composing the sheet show some little difference. The setting up of the type was very carelessly done, and numerous minor varieties may be met with, though the only properly so-called errors are the varieties with "SHLLIING" or "OSTAGE." This was the only lot of 1s. stamps that Perkins Bacon provided, and they were probably issued in December, 1875 (there is a misprint in the Catalogue with regard to this date).



Dec., 1875. Wmk. Star. Perf.

	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
1s., deep mauve	45 0	6 0

On January 1, 1881, Grenada was admitted into the Postal Union, and new values of $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 4d. were required for half-ounce letters addressed to islands "within three hundred nautical miles" of Grenada, and also to all countries belonging to the Postal Union. At the same time it was

determined to provide $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamps; the inland rate on newspapers was fixed in 1861 at a halfpenny each, while the same charge was made on printed books, etc., for every half-pound beyond the first, the charge for which was one penny. Previous to 1881 this postage was paid in cash, and it is surprising that no stamps of this value were issued till 1881. During 1880 several references were made in the philatelic press that "provisionals for a $\frac{1}{2}$ d. value had been created by the simple method of cutting the 1d. stamp in two, obliquely, and using the halves."

These three new values were made in the same way as the 1s. referred to above, viz. by printings from the fiscal plate and overprinting the postal values in black. Six thousand of each denomination were sent out by Perkins Bacon and Co. in February 1881, the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. being in the same colour as the 1s., the $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. in rose-lake or claret, and the 4d. in blue. The stamps were all perforated by a guillotine machine gauging 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ a perforation that is found on no other stamp manufactured by this firm. Another point of interest in connection with this issue is that some of the $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 4d. stamps were printed upon a paper with a *broad-pointed* star watermark, no doubt a few sheets left over from a supply used for some South Australian stamps in 1875 and 1879. Outside South Australia they are the only stamps that have ever been printed on this paper. For the full history of this paper collectors are referred to the handbook on Barbados. The balance of the $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 4d., as well as the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamps, were upon the "large star" paper. Many minor varieties are to be found in the type-set overprints, the most prominent being "OSTAGE" and "PENCF."

POSTAGE

TWO PENCE HALF PENNY

April, 1881. Overprinted as last (the $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. as in the above illustration). Wmk. Star. Perf.

	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
$\frac{1}{2}$ d., deep mauve	2 0	1 6
$2\frac{1}{2}$ d., rose-lake	12 6	5 0
4d., blue	8 6	6 0

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Stock Books, and are, therefore, the Prices at which Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., will have pleasure in supplying any of the stamps that may be needed by any of our readers.

Topical Notes

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

The British Guiana Philatelic Society

IS evidently flourishing, and on November 7 last the fifth anniversary was celebrated by an "At Home," with an Exhibition of Stamps by members of the Society, and about 150 attended, amongst them being His Excellency Sir F. M. Hodgson, Lady Hodgson, the Bishop of Guiana, the Postmaster-General, Sir Henry and Lady Bovell, the Hon. B. Howell Jones, Canon Josa, Mr. A. D. Ferguson, etc.

Both from a social and a philatelic point of view the "At Home" was a great success, and a number of very interesting exhibits were shown under sheets of glass, arranged on a series of long tables.

I am very glad that Philately is so flourishing in far-off British Guiana, and I wish the local Society many such successful gatherings.

British Guiana 1888 Provisional Issue

AT a recent meeting of the British Guiana Philatelic Society, Mr. A. D. Ferguson read an interesting paper upon the stamps of this issue, which is printed in the December number of *The British Guiana Philatelic Journal*.

The synopsis given at the end of this article is so interesting that I quote it in full.

SYNOPSIS OF ISSUE.

	Stamps supplied by De La Rue and Co.	Surcharged in Colony, July 15, 1905.	Destroyed in Colony, November 7, 1901, and January 26, 1905.	Issue in the Colony.
1 c.	123,000	—	—	123,000
2 c.	307,000	273,300	—	34,500
3 c.	123,000	—	46,273	86,727*
4 c.	123,000	—	39,910	83,090
6 c.	123,000	—	—	123,000
8 c.	123,000	—	71,517	51,483
10 c.	123,000	—	96,595	26,405
20 c.	123,000	—	111,003	11,997
40 c.	121,200	—	117,061	4,139
72 c.	123,000	—	110,401	12,599
\$1	123,000	121,800	—	1,200
\$2	121,800	111,000	9,561	1,239
\$3	123,000	111,000	—	12,000
\$4	123,000	54,000	67,467	1,533†
\$5	123,000	—	—	123,000

The 2 c. was surcharged with red "2" and issued on June 5, 1889. The \$1, \$2, \$3, \$4 values were surcharged "One Cent" on and after July 15, 1890. The cent values were destroyed on November 7, 1901, and the \$2 and \$4 values destroyed on January 26, 1905.

The issue of the \$5 value is still unexhausted.

An Innovation at the Royal Philatelic Society

A MOST interesting meeting of the Royal Philatelic Society was held in January, at which thirty-five members were present.

The special feature was the display—by members—of twelve interesting varieties of stamps from their collections, and the result was most instructive.

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales showed some unique things in the way of essays, etc., of which particulars will be given in the next number of *The London Philatelist*.

The Earl of Crawford showed specimens of all the known perforated abnormal varieties of Great Britain, including that great rarity the 10d. wmk. Emblems.

I do not think that the set of stamps exhibited by Lord Crawford could have been matched in any other collection in the world.

Mr. R. Reid showed twelve rarities from his unused collection, which is being sold at auction this season. Amongst them was the Spain, 1851, 2 rls., blue, error of colour (being in the colour of the 6 rls.). As I am having this stamp expertized, I shall refer to it again later on in my notes.

Mr. Harvey Clarke, rare varieties of Sydneys and Transvaals.

Mr. R. B. Yardley, some rare varieties in Barbados, South Australia, and Turkey. One of the most interesting stamps Mr. Yardley exhibited was a New South Wales 6d., brown, laureated, on entire, dated May 7, 1852, being seven days after date of issue, and undoubtedly one of the first printed. The interest of this stamp lies in the fact that it is on paper without any trace of blue-ing—a yellowish-white stout paper.

Some fifteen years ago I had two of these stamps in the Castle Collection, but most authorities thought the colour had been discharged; the discovery of this specimen on letter is important, and tends to prove that a sheet or two of the first printing were on a thick yellowish-white paper.

Other interesting exhibits were shown by Messrs. Castle, Ransom, Sidebotham,

* There is a discrepancy of 10,000 here.—ED. G.S.W.

† This represents about 255 with large "4."

McNaughtan, Joselin, Laing, and Warren ; and I think that exhibits of this nature, in which *all members* can take part and find something of interest to show, will do much to popularize the meetings of the Royal Philatelic Society.

Some Recent Purchases

IN the last few weeks we have made a few rather important purchases, and of these two *large* collections were at once sold privately; one of these was a superb specialized lot of one country, and this was sold at a little under £1000, and the other an exceptionally good general collection.

The following are being added to stock :—

£10,000.

This is just about the catalogue value of a very large stock, mostly of British Colonials, that we have just purchased.

The stamps are nearly all good copies, and are contained in between eighty and ninety large books.

The finest copies are being picked out and added to our stock books, and made up into many small books for our approval trade.

Ceylon.

We have bought a nice little lot of the old issues of this country, a considerable proportion of them being unused.

In the *Star, imperf.*, I note, used, one each 4d. and 8d., fine, two of the 9d., three each 1s. 9d. and 2s.

In unused, three of the rare ½d. on blue paper, two of them with full gum.

Star, clean-cut perf., three of the 4d., milky rose, unused ; three 8d., brown, clean-cut perf., unused ; one 8d., brown, unused ; and two unused and one used of the 8d., yellow-brown, in the rough perf. ; and a very fine lot of shades in the commoner pence issue stamps.

British New Guinea or Papua.

We have bought another specialized collection of this country, the third one within four or five months, and still find it difficult to get enough stock to meet the demand.

A Sign of the Popularity of Philately

THE Dundee and District Philatelic Society has made arrangements with the curator of the local museum for an exhibition of stamps during the winter season. A case is reserved in the "Old Dundee" Gallery of the Albert Institute for the display of postage stamps, and already the innovation has proved a great attraction. The first set of stamps shown were those from British South Africa and Orange River Colony. This collection attracted considerable attention among local philatelists, and it has now been

withdrawn and replaced by a tastefully arranged exhibition of the stamps of Brazil collected by Mr. G. H. Whitaker, Hon. Secretary of the Dundee and District Philatelic Society.

I think that with a little tact the secretaries of many philatelic societies might be able to arrange for such a case to be reserved in local museums or public institutes for stamp exhibits by members of the local society, and I am sure that much good might be done by this method of publicity.

Description of New Stock Books arranged and priced during the last week

Greece.

THREE very fine and very complete books of a very popular country.

All issues are really well represented by unused (including many blocks) and used.

In the middle issues there are a large number of errors, such as pairs imperf. between, private roulettes, blocks with flaws etc.

The provisionals and surcharged stamps are especially complete, and we have found many uncatalogued varieties.

These books are well worth the serious attention of all who are interested in these fine old stamps, in which there is still much to be learnt.

I wish to draw special attention to Volume II, as I think that this book contains more uncatalogued varieties than any other of our two hundred stock books.

In the issues 1889-99 and in the provisionals of 1900 we have, in this book, a superb lot of errors, such as pairs imperf. between, blocks of four part perforated, and a large number of stamps with various unofficial perforations, varying from a large perforation about 5 to a fine pin-perforation.

In many small places in Greece it appears that the postmasters made these private perforations for their own convenience in separating the stamps, and I consider such varieties as interesting and worthy of inclusion in fine collections.

Great Britain.

Used Stamps, Volume III. This book contains stamps from No. 81 to No. 163 in our current Catalogue.

Used Stamps, Volume IV. This book contains the stamps from No. 164 to the £1 of the current issue, inclusive.

As previously, most numbers are shown in all varieties of postmarks, which are carefully classed.

A large number of very choice copies are contained in these volumes.

The Postage Stamps of Belgium—*contd*

By CH. DE BONT

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Issues of October 20 and November 1, 1883.

INSTRUCTIONS regarding the issue of new postage stamps were given in the circular reproduced below:—



No. 1706.

POSTS,
No. 888.

TELEGRAPH,
No. 598.

"Concerning the issue of New Postage Stamps.
"October 12, 1883.

"Given below are two Decrees, dated August 29, authorizing new designs for the 10 centimes postage stamp, and for the values exceeding that amount, and also determining their colours, and the colour of those values which are lower than 10 centimes.

"Notwithstanding the ministerial decree of August 29, a similar decree, dated October 3, fixes the 20th of this month for the issue of the new 10 and 20 centimes stamps, and November 1 next for the 25 and 50 centimes. The date of issue of the remaining values will be determined hereafter.

"The first supplies of the new 10, 20, 25, and 50 centimes stamps will be forwarded immediately.

"It should be noticed that the new set of postage stamps comprises, amongst others, a 2 franc value, and also that there are no 40 centimes or 5 franc stamps. Existing stocks of these two values are, however, to be used up.

"The Director-General,
(Signed) "VINCENT."

"THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS.

"HAVING CONSIDERED, etc., etc.,

"IT IS DECREED:—

"1. The values and colours of the new postage stamps shall be as follows:—

10 centimes,	carmine.
20 ,,,	blue-grey.
25 ,,,	blue.
50 ,,,	violet.
1 franc	lilac.
2 francs	brown.

"2. The following colours shall be used for the values of the existing designs below 10 centimes.

1 centime,	reseda.
2 centimes,	yellow.
5 ,,,	green.

"3. The new postage stamps, and also those which are to be changed as regards the colour, shall be issued on January 1 next.

"Brussels, August 20, 1883.
(Signed) "X. OLIN."

The above date of issue was altered by another decree, dated October 3, which reads as follows:—

"THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS.

"HAVING CONSIDERED, etc., etc.,

"IT IS DECREED:—

"1. Notwithstanding our decree, above mentioned, the new 10 and 20 centimes postage stamps shall be issued on October 20 of this year, and the 25 and 50 centimes on November 1.

"Brussels, October 5, 1883.

(Signed) "X. OLIN."

No. 1715.

POSTS,
No. 895.

TELEGRAPH,
No. 605.

"Concerning the Issue of New Postage Stamps.

"THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS.

"Having considered our decree of August 20, which was promulgated as commanded by a Royal Decree of the same date, and which authorizes the creation of new postage stamps:—

"IT IS DECREED:—

"1. Notwithstanding paragraph 3 of our decree above mentioned, the new 1 and 2 franc postage stamps are to be issued on a date to be fixed hereafter.

"Brussels, December 31, 1883.

(Signed) "X. OLIN."

As there was not a very large stock on hand of the stamps of 1869 to 1875, and as the Minister of Public Works was desirous of bringing the new types into use quickly, it was decided to hasten the manufacture of these stamps as much as possible. The authorities therefore instructed the well-known London firm, Messrs. De La Rue and Co., to proceed with the work.

The full quantity required of each value was printed by that firm at one time. They were printed on white, wove paper, and were perforated 14.

The central feature of the different designs, which is common to all values, is the head of Leopold II, turned to the left, and placed in either a circle or an oval; the inscription consists of the words "BELGIQUE" and "POSTES," and of the value in figures. The frame is different for each value.

The 10 and 20 centimes stamps were issued on October 20, 1883: they do not seem to be particularly well printed, but that was doubtless due to the short time allowed the printers for delivery.

The 25 and 50 centimes stamps were issued on November 1 of the same year; they were much better printed than the two preceding values, but unhappily they did not meet with the approval of Leopold II, who

had them replaced by others six months later.

The following shades are known :—

10 centimes,	rose, bright rose-carmine,
20	pearl-grey, slate-grey.
25	dull blue, deep blue.
50	pale and bright violet.

Somebody in authority used his influence to obtain imperforate copies on the proper paper of the 10 centimes *carmine*, 20 centimes *bluish grey*, 25 centimes *blue*, and the 50 centimes *violet*.

Imperforate copies of the 2 francs *pale brown* have also been accepted by many people as authorized, but this stamp must certainly be considered as an essay, seeing that the Royal Decree authorizing it was modified.

Copies of the 10 c., 20 c., 25 c., 50 c., and 2 francs on thick paper are also known, but those are most certainly essays.

The only variety, so far as I know, is the 10 centimes *rose-carmine*, with double perforation.

Issue of 1884.

This issue consists of the 1 c., 2 c., and 5 c. stamps of the 1869-70 issue, with altered colours as authorized by a Royal Decree dated August 20, 1883. The perforation of these stamps gauges 14.

The 1 centime reseda.

This stamp was first issued on 1 January, 1884, there being three distinct printings of it :—

First printing.—December, 1883, *deep reseda*, 26,700,000 copies.

Second printing.—March, 1884, *pale reseda*, 19,200,000.

Third printing.—September-October, 1888, *pale and deep reseda*, 54,600,000 copies.

This last printing was made by reason of the Special Order given below :—

(To be continued.)

Our Philatelic Society's International Congress

As reported by W. WARD

THE President (who else could it be?) of our Society had recently read a report of the German Philatelists' Annual Congress, and it came into his mighty brain that such would be a great event for England, and incidentally a great free, gratis, and for nothing advertisement for our Society. More so, since such a

"SPECIAL ORDER."

"Administration of . . .

POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

No. 125/97

"Concerning the temporary substitution of *reseda-coloured ink* for the *grey-coloured ink* used for printing the 1 centime stamps.

"September 26, 1888.

"The 1 centime postage stamp will be printed temporarily in *reseda-coloured ink*, so that the Administration may be able to use up a quantity of this ink which is now in the stores.

"Stamps of this colour will first be issued on October 1 next.

"As soon as the *reseda* ink has been used up, the 1 centime stamp will be printed in *grey* as before.

"The Director-General "The Director-General
"of Telegraphs, "of Posts,
(Signed) "DELARGE." (Signed) "STASSIN."

As the 1 centime *reseda* stamps were printed from exactly the same plates as were used for the 1 centime *green*, the former also show various errors and defects in the printing. I have noticed the following varieties :—

- I c., *reseda*.
 - (i.) Imperforate.
 - (ii.) "BELGIQUE," instead of "BELGIQUE."
 - (iii.) "BELOIQUE," instead of "BELGIQUE."
 - (iv.) "DELGIQUE," instead of "BELGIQUE."
 - (v.) "BELGIOUE," instead of "BEIGIQUE."
 - (vi.) "BELGIQUE," instead of "BELGIQUE."
 - (vii.) "RELGIQUE," instead of "BELGIQUE."
 - (viii.) Defective impression (whole of stamp).

The only shades worthy of notice are the *pale* and *deep reseda*, with *white* and *yellow* gum.

[We are requested by the author to state that "all rights are reserved" for this article on "The Postage Stamps of Belgium." This intimation has not been made with previous instalments, so notice is now called to the matter.—ED. G.S.W.]

meeting had never been brought together previously in this country. With the great tact of a suffragette general he selected about a hundred different committees, one each for advertising, catering, secretarizing, treasurering, and what not. The last, I might mention, he found advisable to dismiss at the last moment, because the other

members of the finance and treasury committee wanted to keep a book—the idea! Unfortunately for our President, the day before the Congress he had the misfortune to be confined at home with a broken leg, or some other asthmatical complaint, I forget which. We were in a great fix. By right of his position, our President should have also been President of the Congress. However, on the day of the great event, several of us decided upon a substitute. Since it was the first British Congress, it was only right that the chair should be taken by a representative Britisher. Accordingly we unanimously elected that good old Englishman, Mr. Aaron van Schloffski, to the Presidency of the Congress. At first some of the members present thought that it was hardly fair that the other three nations should have to give way to the domineering partner—but of course they were prejudiced, being themselves either Irish, Scots, or Welsh.

Anyhow, the thing—I mean gentleman—was decided on, and at the hour of three o'clock in the afternoon precisely, the trouble—er—proceedings to discuss the world of Philately commenced.

Mr. Mackintosh (delegate from Belfast) proposed the Congress opened, and Mr. Evan O. Evans (Liverpool) seconded.

The President opened the discussion as to the advisability of having a Collector's Catalogue. This was seconded by Mr. Frederic, the well-known Strand dealer. The motion was opposed by Mr. Claude Downte, the great private collector, who had for his supporter another specialist, Mr. Harry Arthur Charles Fitzmontmorency Peter David Matthew Bertram Walker (London). The amendment was placed to the Congress, but lost, owing to several well-known and enthusiastic collectors not having yet arrived. The President therefore declared that the motion to have a Collector's Catalogue was carried, and that the matter would be left in the hands of a select (more or less) committee to bring out. One would hardly have imagined that all the dealers present could have had the same opinion, it being generally known that most in the trade do just the opposite to their neighbours—but every one present cheered his heartiest. It was real pity to see the expression of the faces of the collectors who were in the minority.

The Hon. Effendi Lazerus proposed that the stamps of Egypt be placed in the British Colonial section of the catalogue.

Mons. Henri Passant (Canned) objected, and said if such was done Canada would be classified as a French Colony. (Here the Canadian delegate cried, "Hear, hear!") Mons. Passant thanked his Canuck friend and said on second thoughts he would with-

draw his first proposal, but they (the French) would allow of the stamps of Egypt being given as a British Protectorate, provided only the French stamps used in Morocco would be recognized as the *bona fide* Moorish stamps. This remark drew forth a big word from Prince von Abov, who further said that Morocco was German territory.

Mons. Passant protested, and said that Alsace and Lorraine were French provinces.

Herr Bunkum supported the Prince, and made an inaudible remark about the year 1870.

Mons. Passant then gave all his visiting-cards away, but was informed by the President that duelling was prohibited in England.

Herr Ejigg (Denmark) objected to the stamps of Mecklenburg-Schwerin being given as a German State. Prince von Abov was saying, "as the Germans had built Kiel, the most famous naval dockyard in the world, for the greatest warships ever known," when he was interrupted by Barls Cherrisford (Portsmouth), who corrected by saying, "famous farmyard for butter."

When the President succeeded in regaining order, and enforcing that the Congress was a philatelic one, and not holden at The Hague, Mr. le Moyen (Canada) asked the U.S.A. delegate when their next Exposition was to come off, as they (the Canadians) had no wish to clash dates, and so spoil the demand for pretty commemoratives. Mr. John S. Wank (U.S.A.) replied, and was about half through the list of the World's Fairs for the next two years, when Señor Kayencia suggested that it would help to another *entente cordiale* if the Spanish stamps had a picture of the infant princes engraved on each of them; but this was passed over when Herr van Schloykt (Holland) remarked that, owing to the reduction of the postal rates, there would be little use for stamps above the ten pesetas value.

Mr. William Pitt-Green (Boston) proposed that as Miss Gwendoline Parsons had been "sacked" by the Earl of Crewe, at least they should turn her over to either of the noble Earl's co-cabinetists, Mr. Haldane or Mr. Lloyd-George, for a pension.

Mr. Jones (Llanfairpwllgwyngogoch) objected to the proposal to get Mr. Lloyd-George to give the lady a pension, as she might want to surcharge her "five bob" whateffer.

The President at this moment proposed an adjournment for tea, and after this pleasant refreshment, he called upon a gentleman from the Colonial Office to give a few matters, and particles of news about forthcoming new Colonial issues. This he did, and gave us a list of the new colours of papers which the pending new issues will be printed on. [We regret that, owing to our

publication being confined to only fifty-two weeks of the year, we are unable to give the full list of the Colonial Office papers; it is, however, of interest to say that the list includes all shades between white and black.—ED. G.S.W.] Specimen sheets were handed round, but many who had just partaken of tea complained of being colour-blind.

By request, Mr. C. Villian (Bombay) started to read a paper entitled "To be a dealer, or not to be," but since there was a fellow of the Royal Society (for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) present, he was forbidden, much to the disappointment of two fellahs (Egypt and Sudan).

Mr. A. M. A. Tuer (Printesbury) proposed that, owing to the great reduction in the numbers of philatelic journals, magazines, and sheets now published against the number in 1841, this Congress ask every delegate personally to float a periodical for Philately.

Mr. Con. Tributor asked if it would not be a difficulty to get sufficient editors and

journalists, as there were only 22,360,000 collectors in the whole world actively engaged in Philately and its researches, and he was under the impression that they (the editor) had all been used up.

Mr. de Smythe ventured that it was about time that such countries as Gibraltar, Great Britain, Malta, Falkland Islands, and several others little known about, should be written up by their respective specialists. This was carried with acclamation.

As it was now only a few hours off closing time, the President proposed that the Congress be closed, which was seconded by Mr. Van Winkle (Lapland), who had fortunately just arrived.

A vote of thanks to the chair, which was not seconded, closed the first Philatelic Congress held in this country, and it may be mentioned that it was with great surprise that the City Police found the statue of Oliver Cromwell still in its usual place on the following morning.

Notes of a Provincial Junior—continued

By YOKEL

Tasmania

THE early stamps of Tasmania form a very interesting study.

When, in 1853, it was decided to issue stamps for the prepayment of postage, it was decided to have plates engraved in England, but as there was a desire that the new system should come into operation as early as possible, two plates were engraved and printed by Messrs. H. and C. Best, of Hobart Town, for 1d. and 4d. values, and these remained in use until supplies were received from England.

The 1d. value was printed in blue from a plate containing twenty-four "heads"; these were separately engraved and show slight variations of types, but no prominent varieties. The paper was unwatermarked. This stamp is scarce, and fine copies are not often met with. It was issued November 1, 1853.

The 4d. was also printed from a plate having twenty-four varieties of type. As it was anticipated that one plate would be unable to cope with the demand for this value, another plate was engraved. The first supplies in orange-red were printed from the finer plate, which was, however, supposed to be the second 4d. plate engraved; the colour was orange in later supplies.

There were 246,980 stamps of the 1d. value and 812,496 stamps of the 4d. value printed.

The supplies ordered from England were not received until August, 1855. They were engraved and printed by Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co., and were of three values—1d., carmine; 2d., deep green; 4d., deep blue. About 100,000 of the 1d. and 2d. and 800,000 of the 4d. value were printed, the paper being watermarked Large Star.

The 4d. is easily found in good condition and pairs are not scarce, but the 1d. value is not readily met with, and is much scarcer than the 2d. value.

It was intended by the Tasmanian Government that all supplies of stamps should be printed in England, but through a mistake Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co. forwarded the 1d., 2d., and 4d. plates to Tasmania after they printed the before-mentioned quantities.

As no means were provided for a fresh supply, Messrs. H. and C. Best were applied to when the 1d. stamps ran short, and a temporary supply of these stamps was printed from the plate of the value at their office early in 1856, the number being 67,680 and the paper used being a thick wove paper, the same as the *Courier* newspaper was printed upon. These stamps were well and clearly printed in a pale brick-red. Another supply was printed late in 1856, but the paper used was almost pelure, and the colour a rich brown-red.

Both these stamps are scarce, especially the former.

The supply of 2d. stamps ran out early in 1857, and Messrs. Best printed a supply of 37,200 on paper similar to that which they used for the first-named 1d. stamps; the colour was emerald-green.

Messrs. Best printed a supply of 171,600 1d. stamps during 1857, the colour being in shades of blue.

All the above stamps were imperforate.

In the meanwhile paper for printing these stamps had been received from England which was watermarked with double-lined numeral 1, 2, or 4, according to the denomination it was intended to be used for. These papers were at first printed so that the watermark shows inverted, the 1d. being found in brown-red, brick-red, vermillion, and carmine; they are not easy to obtain in good condition, although the brick-red shade is common in average condition. The 2d. is found in a large range of shades, the emerald-green is scarce, and the yellow-green is hard to find, whereas the blue-green and sage are readily met with.

The 4d. is found in shades of blue, and is common; there is, however, a cobalt shade, which will require much seeking for in fine condition.

Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co. at this period prepared two new plates of the value of 6d. and 1s. respectively, and after printing a supply of each, sent the plates to the colony. The colour of the 6d. was lilac; this is a hard stamp to find in good condition, but the 1s. value in vermillion is common, and, as this supply lasted until 1873, this stamp is not found in the imperforate Colonial issue, but the 6d. is found in shades slate and bluish grey, and a scarce reddish mauve is sometimes met with. These colonial prints can be distinguished, as they are not so clearly printed as the London issue. Between 1864 and 1869 the above issue was unofficially perforated by Messrs. Walch and Son, of Hobart Town, or Mr. Harris, of Launceston; it was not until the later date that Messrs. Walch and Son perforated them for the Government.

In 1871 the 6d. and 1s. stamps were perforated by the Government with a machine gauging 11-11½, and the 6d. also with a machine gauging 12.

Messrs. Walch used machines gauging 10 and 11½-12 on all the values, and the 1d., carmine, and 4d., blue, are found with a compound of the two machines.

These stamps are more easily obtained than those perforated by Mr. Harris, whose machine gauged 12½-13.

A list showing the various prices during the past twenty years can be studied with interest:—

	1885 s. d.	1895 s. d.	1897 s. d.	1902 s. d.	1908 s. d.
1d., blue	—	65 0	60 0	80 0	75 0
4d., yellow	—	18 0	18 0	15 0	18 0
4d., orange	—	20 0	20 0	15 0	16 0
1d., London, imperf.	—	30 0	30 0	40 0	40 0
2d. " " " "	—	10 0	12 0	17 6	25 0
4d. " " " "	1 3	2 6	2 6	2 3	2 6
1d., no wmk.	—	35 0	45 0	50 0	60 0
2d. " " " "	—	25 0	30 0	52 6	50 0
4d. " " " "	—	5 0	5 0	10 0	15 0
1d., pelure	—	30 0	40 0	40 0	40 0
1d., brick-red, imperf.	0 4	1 0	1 0	1 6	3 0
1d., brown-red " " " "	0 4	2 6	1 0	6 0	6 0
1d., carmine " " " "	0 4	1 0	1 0	3 0	6 0
1d., vermillion " " " "	0 4	2 6	2 6	—	5 0
2d., yellow-green	0 6	3 6	3 6	5 0	10 0
2d., sage	0 6	2 0	2 0	5 0	12 6
2d., deep green	0 6	2 6	2 6	5 0	10 0
2d., emerald	0 6	—	—	—	20 0
4d., blue	0 6	1 0	1 0	1 3	1 0
4d., pale blue	0 3	0 9	0 9	1 3	1 0
4d., cobalt	—	—	—	—	3 6
6d., lilac, London	0 6	4 0	3 6	2 0	—
1s., verm " " " "	1 0	—	3 0	5 0	6 0
6d., lilac-blue	0 6	5 0	3 9	1 3	3 6
6d., slate	0 6	0 9	0 9	—	4 0
6d., dull blue	0 6	5 0	5 0	4 0	7 6
6d., red-mauve	—	10 0	10 0	30 0	30 0
1d., red, perf. 10	0 3	2 6	2 6	2 6	4 0
1d., carm. " " " "	0 3	1 6	1 6	—	6 0
2d., yell-green, perf. 10	0 6	12 6	15 0	30 0	40 0
2d., sage	0 6	25 0	35 0	50 0	60 0
4d., blue	0 4	5 0	5 0	3 6	5 0
6d., lilac	0 4	1 6	2 6	5 0	5 0
6d., red-mauve	0 4	—	15 0	10 0	20 0
1s., vermillion	0 4	5 0	5 0	10 0	10 0
1d., carm., perf. 11½-12	—	1 6	1 6	4 0	4 0
2d., yell-green	—	12 6	15 0	30 0	25 0
4d., blue	—	1 0	1 6	10 0	4 0
6d., purple	—	1 0	2 0	10 0	10 0
6d., red-mauve	—	—	—	10 0	40 0
1s., vermillion	—	1 0	1 6	5 0	10 0
1d., red, perf. 12½	—	—	—	12 6	7 6
1d., carm. " " " "	—	—	—	—	10 0
2d., sage	—	30 0	40 0	—	60 0
2d., yell-green, perf. 12½	—	—	—	—	20 0
4d., blue	—	15 0	15 0	15 0	20 0
4d., grey-lilac	—	5 0	5 0	—	30 0
6d., red-mauve	—	5 0	—	—	—
1s., vermillion	—	—	—	12 0	40 0
6d., mauve, perf. 11-11½	—	1 0	0 9	5 0	1 0
6d., bright violet	—	0 9	0 9	2 0	2 6
1s., vermillion	—	1 0	1 6	5 0	2 6
6d., bright violet, perf. 12	—	0 9	0 9	2 0	7 6
6d., lilac-rose	—	1 0	—	2 0	4 0

The Manchester Postage Stamp Exhibition and Philatelic Congress

THIS will be in full swing by the time this paper is in the hands of our readers. *G.S.W.* is a day later than usual this week in reaching subscribers, but the delay has been caused by having the wrappers cancelled with the special postmark.

This special three-day postmark has aroused an amount of enthusiasm not only in philatelic circles but amongst the general public of the whole world, and applications and inquiries for the same are pouring in daily.

It has been found necessary to appoint a sub-committee to deal with them, and not only will souvenir post cards be sent to applicants, but any addressed and stamped envelopes will be posted at the special box if sent to the Hon. Secretary, Exhibition Offices, 9 Albert Square, Manchester.

Everything has been done to make the whole affair a success, and that this should be obtained is the hope of every philatelist.

The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor of Manchester, who unfortunately has been ill for some time past, has now signified his willingness to be enrolled with the distinguished gentlemen under whose patronage the Exhibition is being held.

Many additional delegates have been appointed, and seldom before will so many eminent philatelists have forgathered under one roof. The following time-table has been arranged :—

Thursday, February 18, 5 to 7 p.m. :—
The formation of a National Society or Federation.

Paper by Mr. Percy C. Bishop.

Friday, February 19, 3 to 5 p.m. :—

- (1) The compilation of a Collector's Catalogue and Guide.
- (2) The suppression of unnecessary or speculative issues.

Saturday, February 20, 3 to 4.30 p.m. :
(1) The formation of a body, or committee, to take in hand the disposal of deceased collector's stamps, etc., where the relatives have not the necessary knowledge.

- (2) The holding of an Annual Congress at its venue for 1910.

Saturday, February 20, 7 to 8.30 p.m. :—
Suggestions received prior to or during Congress.

Mr. Percy C. Bishop has kindly undertaken to be the judge in the Essay Competition.

A list of some of the exhibitors follows, and, judging from this, visitors to the Exhibition should have a rare treat.

J. H. Abbott.	J. G. Horner.
Albert Leon Adutt.	W. H. Horrocks.
J. R. M. Albrecht.	H. Howell Jones.
M. Albrecht.	Sir Lees Knowles, B.A.
A. S. Allender.	W. H. Lawson.
Dr F. J. Baildon.	W. Milroy.
P. S. Barton.	W. W. Munn.
W. Dorning Beckton.	J. C. North.
Humphrey Bennett.	Leicester A. B. Payne.
Joseph Brooks.	Bertram W. H. Pool.
S. C. Buckley.	F. Reichenheim.
C. H. Coote.	Geo. Robey.
R. Dalton.	W. Waite Sanderson.
D. S. Darkin.	P. V. Sansome.
J. J. Darlow.	J. H. M. Savage.
W. H. Earl.	W. Scott.
Dr. E. W. Floyd.	Alexander J. Sefi.
Major H. C. French,	H. A. Slade.
R. A. M. C.	V. Smith.
J. Stelfox Gee.	C. H. G. Sprankling.
G. F. H. Gibson.	Stanley Gibbons, Lt.
Thos. Harrop.	James N. Sutcliffe.
H. L. Hayman.	W. H. Tarrant.
J. W. Heath.	John H. Taylor.
E. Heginbottom, B.A.	J. H. Tite.
N. Heywood.	O. K. Trechmann.
J. S. Higgins, jun.	J. E. Williams.
Thos. H. Hinton.	Baron A. de Worms.
	Etc. etc.

Shanghai—continued Notes on the 1890-93 Issues

By BERTRAM W. H. POOLE

THE 5 CENTS VALUE.

I HAVE seen no blocks of the 5 c., rose, on the unwatermarked paper, but, from a large number of singles I have examined, I am of the opinion that there were only five types, as in the 2 c. of the same period, arranged in vertical strips. The five types are as follows, though I am unable to state the order in which they occur :—

TYPE I (?).—There is an uncoloured line

under the circle in the lower left-hand corner. There is a coloured line across the circular line below the "5" in the lower right-hand corner, and another on the uncoloured line under this, $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm. from the right-hand corner.

TYPE II (?).—The "c" of "CENTS" is joined to the line above, and a coloured smudge obliterates the white frame line under the "E" of the same word.

TYPE III (?).—There is a coloured dot between the "EN" of "CENTS" which is joined to the line below. The "G" of "SHANGHAI," the circular line below, and the lower right-hand corner are all smudged.

TYPE IV (?).—There is a smudge in the central circle just below the "N" of "SHANGHAI," and there are two tiny dots on the uncoloured line below the "N" of "CENTS."

TYPE V (?).—There is a large coloured dot in the "5" in the lower left-hand corner.

There are various flaws on the sheet, but I have not seen sufficient of the stamps to give an accurate list of these.

The second stone.—A second stone was brought into use with the advent of watermarked paper, and this was composed of five blocks of ten types each arranged in exactly the same manner as the second stone for the 2 c. This new stone was employed for the 5 c. in both rose and vermilion, and although some of the types are not easy to distinguish they can undoubtedly be identified if carefully examined. The ten types are as follows:—

TYPE I.—A thin line runs across the uncoloured border at the base about 2 mm. from the left corner. There is a small uncoloured dot on the solid colour in the top right-hand spandrel opposite the second "A" of "SHANGHAI."

TYPE II.—A coloured dot is attached to the outside of the top frame line about 2 mm. from the left corner, and another attached to the right-hand Chinese character about the shield.

TYPE III.—A large uncoloured flaw joins the "O" of "LOCAL" to the line above.

TYPE IV.—There is a minute uncoloured dot between the "AN" of "SHANGHAI," and here is a coloured dot on the first upright stroke of the second "H" of the same word.

TYPE V.—The first "A" of "SHANGHAI" badly malformed.

TYPE VI.—There is a coloured dot on the "S" of "POST," and another is attached to the outside of the left frame line about 2 mm. from the top.

TYPE VII.—An uncoloured flaw is attached to the right-hand side of the second "L" of "LOCAL," giving the letter a misshapen appearance.

TYPE VIII.—There is a coloured line through the circular line below and to the right of the "5" in the lower right-hand corner.

TYPE IX.—There is a small uncoloured flaw between "LOCAL" and "POST."

TYPE X.—There is a break in the line below "CENTS" between the letters "E" and "N" of that word.

The following flaws occur on all the sheets have seen:—

No. 3.—A large uncoloured flaw is attached to the white line above the "S" of "SHANGHAI."

No. 23.—There is an uncoloured flaw on the Chinese character above the second "H" of "SHANGHAI."

No. 32.—An uncoloured flaw is attached to the right of the second "A" of "SHANGHAI."

No. 47.—There is a flaw on the back of the "C" of "CENTS."

No. 50.—There is a break in the coloured line below the "C" of "CENTS."

These flaws occur in the vermilion stamp of 1892-3 as well as in the previous issue in rose.

THE 10 CENTS VALUE.

I have not seen any of the 10 c. black, no wmk., perf. 15, and only a few singles of this value in black on watermark paper. From these I have only been able to verify two of the types with certainty, though I think there is little doubt that the stone was composed of ten vertical strips of five types, each arranged in the same manner as the first stones for the 2 c. and 5 c. values. The two types I have identified are:—

TYPE I.—The figures in the circle in the lower left-hand corner are joined at the base by a short uncoloured line.

TYPE II.—There is a large coloured dot across the white line above the "O" in the lower right-hand corner just under the petal of the flower. This flaw is distinctly shown in the illustration given in Gibbons' current Catalogue.

The second stone.—When the colour of the 10 c. was changed from black to orange a new stone was made, and this also was composed of ten vertical strips, of five types each, arranged as before. The five types are as follows:—

TYPE I.—The line is broken above the "E" of "CENTS," and the coloured line below that word is also broken under the space between "N" and "T."

TYPE II.—There is a small uncoloured dot before the "S" of "SHANGHAI."

TYPE III.—This shows none of the peculiarities that distinguish the other four types.

TYPE IV.—The first Chinese character under the shield is smudged and a large splash of colour joins it to the next character.

TYPE V.—The lower frame line is battered and broken under the space between "EN" of "CENTS," and the "S" of that word is badly malformed. There is a large dot on the uncoloured line under the space between the letters "P" and "O" of "POST."

The following flaws occur on every sheet:—

No. 8.—The lower part of the "C" of "LOCAL" is cut away.

No. 28.—Ditto, ditto.

No. 38.—Ditto, ditto.

No. 42.—There is a large coloured dot on the "C" of "LOCAL."

(To be continued.)

Some "Uncommon Commons"

By J. W. H. HESLOP

A COUPLE of stamps that seem to be in danger of being overlooked are the 12 h. and 30 h. Austria 1906-7. The "eye of the philatelic world" does not seem to be on them. Wedged in between the 1904 shiny bars issue (which was popular) and the 1908 Jubilees (which are again popular), these unicoloured Austrians of 1906 lie like modest violets between two banks of primroses. They are good stamps to have; little mention is made of them in European lists, and they seem to be pretty scarce.

I imagine the 1 h. with shiny bars, 1904, is scarcer than people think, while the 35 h. is perhaps commoner than is generally supposed, and the 60 h. is fairly accessible; but the "best" denominations to have are the 40 h. and 50 h. The 10 h. and 20 h. Newspaper stamps of 1900 give one some trouble in finding in good condition, and should be worth at least 2d. apiece when discovered immaculate. Austrian scissors go astray, and 90 per cent of the Mercury heads get cut awry.

Of Hungary, 1900, the 4 f., 12 f., and 50 f. are perhaps the slowest denominations to accumulate; and as for the Unpays, nobody seems to have any to spare. These Unpays have a wonderful fascination when viewed for the first time.

An elusive stamp is the 15 reis, fawn, of Portugal, 1895-9. It is catalogued only 1d., but I have never yet seen two copies together. The other day I saw four thousand mixed specimens of this issue, but there was not a 15 reis, fawn, in all the lot. The corresponding value among Portuguese colonies must be equally scarce.

How many collectors who read these lines possess a $\frac{1}{2}$ c. Holland, Postage Due, used? The 1 c., $2\frac{1}{2}$ c., 5 c., and 10 c. come easily, but the lowest value of all is a troublesome bit of paper to circumvent. One fancies that the occasions when a Hollander is mulcted of a half-cent surplus postage are few.

And the 2 c. and 4 c. of Indo-Chine 1904? Or the 4 c. Guadeloupe 1906, 4 c. and 6 c. Costa Rica 1903, 30 and 40 lep. current Greek, 4 c. Mexico, 4 c. Nicaragua, 30 c. Chili 1900, and the 50 c. of 1901-2? It is not only the beginner who finds such stamps difficult to round up; advanced collectors may sometimes proceed to five or ten thousand specimens, gathering stamps that cost pounds maybe, yet leaving gaps behind them of these troublesome smaller fry.

It is astonishing how the Swiss are holding on to their new Helvetia type of 1907; these stamps, no doubt, exist in quantity, but, with the exception of the 5 c. and 10 c., do not seem to be available, except at a high figure.

The type is being changed, and every seems eager to gather all the used copies can get in order to sell at better rates on. The Luxemburgians are also slow parting with their new issue, both ordinary and Official, and the Belgians seem to still hoarding up the 35 c., 50 c., and 1 franc their 1905 issue; perhaps in ten years the stamps may be available in quantity, but the present one has to be content with copies.

Everybody has got Argentine 1900 2 c., 5 c., 10 c., and 15 c., but not everybody possesses the 3 c., 4 c., 6 c., or 12 c., while the $\frac{1}{2}$ c. is not so easy to get as is the $\frac{1}{2}$ c. 1892. (By the way, I possess twelve distinct shades of the 2 c. of 1889.)

The 3 c. Bulgaria (Ferdinand) is the "holy grail" of the set of 1 c. to 30 c. In similar isolation stand the 4 c. Luxemburg 1892 1895, 40 c. Italian Segnatasse, and the 1 franc Norway 1894. The 8 c. U.S.A. 1890, at least one price list, is offered in quantity at a rate higher than catalogue value, almost all the U.S.A. pictorials above 2c. are rapidly going up. Young America waives them. Even the 25 pf. German of 1900 is getting dearer; the 2 pf. of the same is, in its way, a stamp not over-abundant, while the 80 pf. is dearer than either. A used German Officials, 2 c., 3 c., and 25 pf. are by no means common.

One wonders what became of all the unused Cubas from 1875 to 1899. These are plentiful unused, yet surely there must have been thousands upon thousands of copies used in their day. Where are they all now?

5 c. China 1898 and the $\frac{1}{2}$ c. Colombia 1904 (large figure) are elusive stamps, and other scarce commons are: the 3 c. Danish Official; 10 paras, green, Egypt, 1884 (particularly in an unused state); 20 c. and 30 c. French, 1900 and 1902; and the 10 c. Chile 1900 (yes!); while the 40 c. oblong is going up, and the collector who has got a clear copy of the current 30 c. is to be congratulated. No one knows what rubbish there is in some places on the Continent till he comes to close quarters with some purchase made in the dark, on the principle of buying a poke, when he finds the majority of stamps he has bought are unfit for collecting. One wonders what becomes of all these defective stamps. Do they find their way into cheap packets? At any rate, no self-respecting house would admit them into its premises—a fact which makes it imperative to deal only with firms who have a reputation to maintain. A "cheap" packet, if composed of this sort of stuff, in the end would prove the dearest of the dear.

stamp Sharps

By A. JAY

A GLANCE down the advertising columns of almost any daily or weekly newspaper will be sufficient to show that there are always flats to be caught by specially worded advertisements of the something-for-nothing type; usually a valuable (?) prize is offered as a reward for the solving of an absurdly simple puzzle, or a handsome reward will be made for the selling of a few articles which you can easily dispose of to our friends. I am sorry to say that there exists a class of people who are ready to take advantage of the young stamp collector by somewhat similar sharp practice, and the beginner who becomes possessed of the fever of stamp collecting, and who has money to burn in his hobby, is nearly sure to fall into the hands of unscrupulous persons. I trust the following few notes, showing the methods adopted by these sharpers, will prove a warning to the younger generation of collectors.

I should think nearly every one is familiar with the advertiser of a tin box full of stamps which has been discovered in clearing a umber-room, containing, amongst others, rare old stamps from the colonies, and some three-cornered ones." This lot generally consists of any quantity up to twenty thousand, and if you cannot afford to buy the lot a sample two hundred or so is offered for about 2s. I have seen some of the samples, but have never had the pleasure of finding "the rare old colonials" or the "three-cornered ones," and "the others" have generally consisted of low-value Continentals. I can only conclude that there were not enough of the rare stamps to go round the applicants for samples, and that the lots I have seen have just missed the bargains. Another type of misleading advertisement which was prevalent during the earlier days of the King's Head boom was worded as follows: "Transvaal King's Head stamps, set of high values, 1s., 2s., 2s. 6d., 5s., 10s., and £1., fine used copies; my price 1s. 6d. only a few sets left." Now this looked like a fine bargain, and I remember rushing off to the post office for fear they should be sold out of eighteen-penny postal orders. I sent off the money and went to bed that night to dream of the looks of envy of my collector friends when I produced my bargain. In due course the stamps arrived, and certainly they were very fine—and large—for I was the proud possessor of a set of penmarked fiscals. A similar advertisement was: "Great Britain, set of four high values, 2s. 6d. to £1.; my price, 1s. the set." I had had enough of buying high values, so I showed this advertisement

to a friend, and he was so anxious to have the stamps that I graciously allowed him to send the necessary shilling; as usual, the stamps came, but unfortunately the postmarks were so very heavy that all four of them had the appearance of having been dipped bodily into a tin of boot blacking. A favourite plan of the stamp sharp is to advertise a small collection of stamps, from five hundred to one thousand, at a very low price for the quantity. The unsuspecting beginner sends off his cash, only to find that he has overlooked the fact that the advertiser omitted to state that the stamps were not all different, and the buyer will be lucky if he can pick out fifty varieties.

I remember an advertiser who had given up collecting offering an album containing about two hundred stamps, together with a large packet of duplicates and some stamp mounts, price to clear, 2s. 9d. The album was a small paper-covered affair, and certainly "contained" the stamps, as they were placed loosely between the leaves, and with the duplicates consisted of the usual low-value Continentals and current ½d. and 1d. of Great Britain. Of late there have been offered copies of the high-value South African stamps, unused and apparently mint, and strange to say, under face value. I recently had a pair of the £1 British South Africa offered to me, the price asked being 35s. Being suspicious, I submitted them to an expert, who very soon showed me that they had been used fiscally, and carefully cleaned.

The moral to this article will be fairly obvious—buy your stamps from reliable firms who, having a reputation to lose, will always treat you fairly and give good value for money.

Stamps are just the same as everything else, inasmuch that if you want a good article you must pay a fair price. It is far better to pay a little more and have good, clean, undamaged copies than to be misled by so-called cheap lots, which, as I have pointed out, frequently prove of no use at all. It is only fair to say that none of the lots mentioned in the article were advertised by genuine stamp dealers, but were usually from a private address, and by those who, for want of a better term, I should call semi-professional dealers.

**STANLEY GIBBONS
PRICED CATALOGUE OF
THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF THE WORLD**

Vol. I. Great Britain and Colonies.
Post-free, 2s. 9d.

Vol. II. The Rest of the World.
Post-free, 2s. 10d.

Foreign Notes

By FRANK PHILLIPS

Belgian Affairs

A FEW months ago there appeared in these columns a few notes anent the poor sales enjoyed by the booklets of stamps in Belgium.

According to *La Revue Postale* the Administration is quite convinced that a means of popularizing the booklets has been discovered. An enormous sacrifice is to be made by selling the booklets at fr. 2.02, instead of fr. 2.5, i.e. a reduction of *three centimes* per booklet is to be made!

Such an important reduction of prices will certainly increase sales a hundredfold — perhaps!

Seriously, booklets of stamps have nowhere been a success, and I do not think one has to seek far for the reason; it was pointed out in a certain periodical the other day, but in which one I do not know.

The remedy seems to be for the books to be sold at the face value of the stamps they contain; the cost to the authorities should not be very great, once the special plates to print the stamps in blocks of six with margins suitable for binding have been obtained.

The British Post Office is taking a step in the right direction by expressing its willingness to consider suitable advertisements on the interleaving pages; as the advertisements will bring in something to set off against the cost of the booklets, we may soon expect to buy them at the face value of the contents.

Congo State

L'Echo de la Timbrologie gives some interesting information about the two issues chronicled in *G.S.W.* dated January 23, consisting of the old Congo Free State stamps overprinted "CONGO BELGE." As previously explained, there are two sets of stamps, one on which the overprint was handstruck, and the second on which it was printed; the actual quantities overprinted are stated to be as follows:—

		Handstruck.	Printed.
5 c.	Postage stamps . . .	4500	22,900
10 c.	" . . .	3000	16,900
15 c.	" . . .	2000	74,900
25 c.	" . . .	1700	101,900
40 c.	" . . .	1000	64,000
50 c.	" . . .	1000	97,900
1 fr.	" . . .	1000	72,900
5 fr.	" . . .	200	25,650
3 fr. 50 c.	Parcel Post stamps . . .	100	22,400
10 fr.	" . . .	175	19,300

The dies used for the handstruck overprint have been sent out to the Congo State,

so that the existing stock of stamps may be overprinted on the spot, but as the stock is quite small the figures given above will be greatly increased.

Our contemporary states that, according to a correspondent, three dies were used for the handstruck overprint, and that they differed slightly from each other; the following points of difference are sufficient to enable the different dies to be distinguished:—

Die A.—Hardly any space between the words "CONGO" and "BELGE"; occurs only on 5 c., 40 c., 1 fr., and 10 fr.

Die B.—Each letter is well separated from its neighbours; the overprint is much clearer; occurs only on the 10 c., 15 c., 25 c., 40 c., 1 fr., 5 fr., and 10 fr.

Die C.—Absolutely identical with the plain overprint, the plate used being reproduced from the Die C; occurs only on the 5 c., 10 c., and 15 c. This die is by far the rarest of the three, as it was only used at first.

Sheets of stamps are known on which the overprints are from two dies; this probably occurred owing to three men having been employed to stamp the sheets; when they went out to dinner they laid down their dies and on resuming work did not necessarily each use the die he had been using before going out.

It is possible that some of my readers have wondered why this overprint was necessary; so I extract the following information on the subject from *The Daily Mail Year Book*, as I am sure it will prove of some interest:—

"The Congo Free State ceased to exist in 1908, the territories formerly administered by King Leopold being annexed by Belgium. By the vote of the Chamber in August, a tract larger in extent than the whole of Europe and with a population of more than twenty millions came under the control of the Belgian Government.

"By the annexation treaty Belgium took over from King Leopold all real and personal estates of the independent Congo State with all its liabilities and financial engagements. According to the explanatory statement accompanying the treaty, the liabilities were amply covered by the assets, and the debt left by the Free State ought not to be a burden on the Belgian taxpayer.

"An important provision of the treaty is that the Crown domain upon which the King wished to keep his hold and from which he had extracted a great part of his revenue is now subject, like all other territories, to the sovereignty of the State and its laws without exception. Henceforward there will exist in the Congo no other authority than that of the Belgian Government. The reforms ordained by decree will apply in the Crown domain as elsewhere."

"On several occasions during the year Sir Edward Grey stated the policy of Great Britain in relation to the Congo, insisting that forced labour must come to an end. He said, on July 7th: 'If it is to come to an end it is essential without delay that the natives should be put into possession of large tracts of territory which will enable them to keep themselves. Otherwise they will have no means of earning a livelihood.'

"In regard to the freedom of trade, the British Government proposed to the Belgian

Government that any difficulties of interpretation of treaty rights should be submitted to arbitration. The Congo Reform party, which has been engaged for some years past in arousing public opinion, especially in England and America, with regard to the atrocities in the Congo State, is by no means fully satisfied by the terms of the annexation, holding that no sufficient guarantees have been given for a radical change in the system of administration and the treatment of the people."

New Issues and Discoveries

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Barbados.—A correspondent has sent two specimens each of the 2d. and 2½d. Nelson Commemorative stamp, wmk. Crown CC, which certainly are printed on different classes of paper. One is a thick opaque creamy white in which the watermark is not too apparent, whilst the other is of a rather transparent thin bluish-white character, in which the watermark shows very clearly. An examination of our publishers' stock shows that the ½d., 1d., and 2d. are on more or less thin paper, and the higher values on the thicker paper. Probably all values exist on both papers, and specialists should certainly make a point of obtaining copies showing the marked differences. The paper, though bluish, is not blue that distinguishes No. 125, etc., of Barbados.

Mauritius.—In *G.S.W.*, No. 213, we chronicled, on the authority of *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, a 25 c. on multiple chalky paper. The above journal has since corrected the record, saying the specimen seen was on chalky paper, but with single watermark. A correspondent has shown us a copy (we think the same that was submitted to Ewen's), and the watermark is very difficult to determine, though our opinion is that is multiple. Readers had better accept our chronicle with reserve, and meanwhile we should be glad to have further particulars about the value in question.

Queensland.—We do not appear to have mentioned that the 2d. Crown and A exists printed from two different dies, though this was pointed out by a contemporary so long ago as July last.

It will be remembered that the 2d. on Crown and Q paper was at first of the same type as the 1d., 3d., 4d., and 6d. (see Nos. 196 and 197). In this type the forehead has no lines of shading, and the front of the crown appears as if broken off. In the redrawn type (No. 232), to the differences mentioned in the Catalogue might be added another, viz. that the forehead is filled in with lines of shading. The 2d. on Crown and A paper (No. 236) is of the redrawn type. The second variety on this paper is from a new die. The forehead is again plain, and though the top of the crown is made higher, it does not touch

the frame; but the point of the bust and the chignon still touch. The figure in the right lower corner does not touch the line below, and has not the battered appearance of that in the first redrawn type. The stamp is very clearly printed, the lines of shading being distinct.



1908. Type 32 (Type 30, second redrawing).
Wmk. Crown and A, Type 29. Perf. 12½, 13.
2d., bright blue.

Russia.—We have received two more values in the new type, viz. 1 and 2 kopecks. The stamps are printed in sheets of 100, four panes of twenty-five (five rows of five). These panes are apparently perforated by a "harrow" machine, and there are spaces of 9 mm. between the lines of holes of adjacent panes. The varnish lines show very clearly on these white spaces. The 2k. varies somewhat in shade. The other values are to appear shortly, and it is said the design of the rouble values is also to be altered, and that a new value, 25 roubles, is to be added to the set.

In 1913 a set is to be put on sale to commemorate the tercentenary of the accession of the House of Romanoff. Some folks say these stamps will have a portrait of the present Czar, whilst others say that they will bear a series of portraits of the Czars of Russia from Peter the Great to Nicholas II. The first design would seem to be taking things somewhat for granted, but anyway there is plenty of time to obtain more reliable particulars.



18

1909. Type 18. Varnish lines on surface. No wmk.
Perf. 14 x 14½.
1 k., orange.
2 k., green.

St. Vincent.—We have received two values in a type similar to the "PAX ET JUSTITIA" stamps, but the design has been redrawn. The words "POSTAGE" and "REVENUE" have changed places with the words "PAX ET" and "JUSTITIA" respectively. The name is in uncoloured letters on a ground of colour. There are also other points of difference.



18

1909. Type 18. Wmk. Multiple Crown C A. Perf. 14.
96 6d., dull purple, O.
97 1s., black on green, O.

Salvador.—We have received a new overprint consisting of the words "DEFICIENCIA—DE FRANQUEO" in two lines in Roman capitals on the current 1 c. postage stamp. *Champion's Bulletin Mensuel* (25 1.09) also chronicles the other values in the list below.



102

DEFICIENCIA
DE FRANQUEO

154

POSTAGE DUE STAMPS

1908. Type 102 overprinted with Type 154, in black.
790 1 c., black and green.
791 2 c., red.
792 3 c., yellow.
793 5 c., indigo.
795 10 c., bright mauve.

Switzerland.—The 2 (c.), bistre, of the redrawn type, formerly only sold in booklets, is now issued in sheets.

We have received the 12 c. and 15 c. in an entirely redrawn type, which, to our mind, is not altogether an improvement. True, Helvetica does not bulk so largely in the new stamps, but the Swiss mountains in the background have given place to a blotch of white, which has the appearance of a smashed snowball. The figures of value appear only once, as they are not so easily seen as on the old stamps. The watermark and perf. still remain the same. The designer's initials, "C L," appear in the lower right corner.



18

Type 18. Granite paper, wmk. Cross, Type 13.
Perf. 11½, 12.
247 12 (c.), yellow-brown.
248 15 (c.), mauve.

United States.—Our New York house has sent the 10 c. of the new type. It is a lemon-yellow in colour, and with regard to this *Mekeel's Weekly* (23.1.09) reports an experiment with a view to showing the unsuitability of the colour. One of the correspondents of the paper franked a registered letter in an amber-coloured envelope with some of these stamps, and, presenting it at the post office counter at night "under a mercury vapour light," was told by the clerk that he had forgotten the postage. We don't think the colour is so invisible as that, but, according to the paper mentioned, the stamp may be modified somewhat in shade.

Our New York house informs us that the 13 c. and 50 c. have been issued, and promises a supply next mail. The 50 c. is almost identical in shade with that of the 3 c., only a trifle lighter. The 13 c. is in a handsome shade of blue-green. The 15 c., blue, and \$1, pink, have apparently not yet been issued.

We illustrate the type of the above stamps, and would mention that the 3 c., 4 c., 5 c., 6 c., 8 c., 10 c., 13 c., and 50 c. all have the figures at foot, and are not of the type illustrated in *G.S.W.*, Nos. 213 and 214; only the 1 c. and 2 c. have words only at the foot. We repeat the chronicle to prevent any error. The stamps are watermarked U.S.P.S.

Several of our contemporaries mention that a special 2 c. stamp was to be issued on February 12, and remain on sale "for a reasonable length of time," to commemorate the hundredth anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln. The design, which is said to be a very fine piece of engraving, shows the head of Lincoln, copied from the St. Gauden statue. We await further particulars with interest.



114

DECEMBER, 1908—JANUARY, 1909. Type 114 Figures at foot. Wmk. U.S.P.S. Perf. 12.
449 3 c., deep mauve-violet.
450 4 c., yellow-brown.
451 5 c., deep blue.
452 6 c., reddish orange.
453 8 c., sage-green.
454 10 c., lemon-yellow.
455 13 c., blue-green.
457 50 c., lavender.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

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VOL. IX.

The Postal Issues of Denmark and the Danish Colonies

By L. HANCIAU

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(Continued from vol. viii, p. 408.)

2. REPLY-PAID CARDS.

THESE were announced as follows:—

"Official Communications from the Chief Office of Posts and Telegraphs."

"No. 16. June 21st, 1883.

"II. From the 1st July of this year, there will be introduced a double card (card with reply prepaid) consisting of two cards joined together, each of which is provided with a stamp printed upon it. The first card is intended for the original communication, the second for the reply. The double card will be issued in the two following values:—

"1. For use within the country, with a 4 öre + 8 öre stamp impressed upon it.

"2. For use without the country, with a 6 öre stamp impressed upon it for Sweden and Norway, and a 10 öre stamp for other countries.

"These cards will be put on sale at the Post Offices, singly at the price of the postage stamp that is impressed upon them, and in packets of fifty copies at the following prices:—

4 öre card, 3 crowns 84 öre per packet.

6 " 5 " 76 " "

8 " 7 " 68 " "

10 " 9 " 60 " "

"The regulations relating to the ordinary cards also apply to those with prepaid reply.

"As a first supply there will be despatched to the Post Offices a certain number of the cards mentioned above; and afterwards they should be requisitioned for in the ordinary way.

"Cards with prepaid reply can be exchanged with the Danish Colonies, the West Indies, and the foreign countries to be found listed below, under the heading 'Rates for cards for foreign correspondence.'

"For the countries for which the postage required for a single card is 15 öre, a 10 öre double card should be used with a 5 öre stamp affixed to each of the two joined cards.

"Between Denmark and Iceland post cards with reply prepaid cannot be exchanged at present."

Issue of July 1st, 1883.

Similar to the ordinary cards of January, 1879, to 1882, with four lines for the address. The two cards are joined together at the top and have the impression on the first and third sides, as is also the case with all that follow.

Impression in colour, size of frame 129 × 80 mm.

(a) Type of the ordinary cards of January, 1879, the 4 öre with stamp of the design of 1870, Type A of the wrappers of 1875, the 8 öre with stamp of the redrawn type of September, 1875. *White* or *bluish-white* card. There are additional inscriptions, "Vedhængende Kort er — bestemt til Svaret," in two lines, at lower left, on the first card; and "(Svar)" below the heading on the second.

4+4 öre, blue.

8+8 " carmine.

(b) Type of the ordinary cards of April, 1879, with four lines of heading. Stamp of the design of 1870; numeral of Variety (e) of 1875; and "POSTFRIM" without stop. "Vedhængende Kort er — bestemt til Svaret.—(La carte ci-jointe est—destinée à la réponse)," in four lines, at lower left, on the first card; and "(Svar. Réponse.)" below the heading, on the second.

6+6 öre, brown on *buff*.

(c) Type of the ordinary cards of July, 1882; stamp of the Arms design, with small figures in the corners. Additional inscriptions as on the 6+6 öre cards.

10+10 öre, carmine on *buff*.

The 6+6 öre cards were suppressed in 1885, as stated in the circular of December 29th of that year, quoted under the single cards.

* * *

A 5 öre card with prepaid reply was announced by the Postal Notice of the

7th March, 1885 (see page 160, vol. xviii, *Monthly Journal*); it appeared on the 1st April following.

Issue of April 1st, 1885.

Similar to the ordinary cards of the same date, with four lines of heading and four lines for the address. Additional inscriptions as upon the 6+6 and 10+10 öre. (i.) The first card has the stamp with large figures in the corners, the reply card has the stamp with small figures in the corners. (ii.) Stamp with large figures on both cards.

5+5 öre, yellow-green on *buff* (i).
5+5 „, deep green „, (ii.).

* * *

Issue of October 1st, 1888.

Similar to the ordinary cards of the same date, with two lines of heading and four lines for the address, and additions as upon the 4+4 and 8+8 öre cards. Two types of the stamp on the 5 öre:—(i.) With small figures in the corners. (ii.) With large figures. *White* or *bluish-white* card.

3+3 öre, grey.
5+5 „, yellow-green (i.).
5+5 „, „, (ii.).

* * *

"Official Communication."

"No. 29. November 22nd, 1890.

"It is hereby notified to the Post Offices that, from the 1st December of this year, there will be manufactured new double cards, at 10 öre, for international correspondence, which, in accordance with the regulations of the Congress of Lisbon, will be furnished with a printed formula slightly altered.

"Of these cards, there will be sent to the Post Offices, at the end of this month, supplies which are to be brought on charge as in the case of ordinary stamps in the account for the month of December.

"The stocks of complete packets of the current 10 öre double cards, remaining on hand in the Post Offices at the end of November, should be carried over to the issue side of the account of ordinary stamps, in the copy of the account for the month of November, and should then be forwarded as early as possible to the office of Stores and Accounts of the General Post Office Department. A receipt will be given for them.

"Single copies of the cards which may be on hand at the Post Offices must not be sold after the 1st December; they should also be sent to the office above mentioned to be exchanged for other postage stamps, etc. Copies of these cards which may be in the possession of the public after that day may, however, still be considered available for use."

Issue of December 1st, 1890.

Similar to the ordinary cards of August, 1887, but with six lines of heading; the fifth being "(Carte postale avec réponse payée)" on the first card, and "Carte postale

—réponse" on the second, and the sixth being the instruction, as before. Stamps with large figures in the corners.

10+10 öre, carmine on *buff*.

Variety.—Without the dotted ground on the shield.

10+10 öre, carmine on *buff*.

* * *

Issue of April, 1906.

Similar to the ordinary cards of the same date. The 10+10 öre has the formula of the cards of December, 1890, and the lower values that of the double cards of October, 1888. The 3+3 öre with stamp of the numeral type, and the others with the portrait of King Christian IX.

3+3 öre, grey on *white*.

5+5 „, green „,

10+10 „, red on *buff*.

* * *

Issues of September, 1907, and 1908.

Similar to the preceding cards, but with stamps bearing the portrait of King Frederick VIII, as upon the ordinary cards of March and April, 1907.

5+5 öre, green on *white*.

10+10 „, red on *buff*.

* * *

LETTER CARDS.

The "Official Communication" of September 15, 1888 (see page 161, vol. xvii, *Monthly Journal*), informed us that Letter Cards were to be issued on the 1st October following, on which date they duly made their appearance.

Issue of October 1st, 1888.

Thin card measuring 140×91 mm. when folded. Stamp at right, Arms at left, upon the Post Cards; in the upper centre the heading "KORRESPONDANCE-KORT," with a line of fancy type below followed by four dotted lines for the address; the first headed "Til," in italics. The stamp is in colour, the formula in black; on card tinted cream on the face and white on the inside. The cards are folded at the top with the margin perforated off at the sides and below. There is no instruction at foot.

A. The perforations meet at the lower corners, and do not cross either vertically or horizontally.

(a) The 4 öre stamp is Type A of the wrappers of 1875, the first of the altered designs of the adhesives of 1870. The 4 öre stamp is that of the post cards of September, 1875, with the three six-pointed stars in the crown.

4 öre, pale blue on *cream*.

8 „, carmine „,

Variety, Card white on both sides.

8 öre, carmine on white.

b) With the 4 öre of the type of the issues of 1875, without any alteration; it is to say, the horizontal stroke of the "t" ends with a short serif, set slanting and other from the vertical stroke, and, which more distinct, there are three stars in the "w.n."

4 öre, grey-blue on cream.

This was chronicled in the *D.B.Z.* for August, 1906; I have not seen the variety.

* * *

Issue of October 25th, 1888.

The perforation is changed; the stamps those described above, section (a).

b. The perforations cross at the lower corners and extend to the sides and the lower edge of the card.

4 öre, blue on cream.

8 ,,, carmine ,,,

* * *

In the following issue the public was informed, somewhat late in the day, how the letter cards should be opened; the Department even thought it necessary on this occasion to despatch a "Communication" to the Post Offices to point out to them the instruction which had been added to the formula.

"Official Communication."

"No. 5. March 11th, 1889.
II. The attention of the Post Offices is drawn to the fact that the printed form of the Letter Cards will bear in future, for the instruction of the public, the following note:—"Kortet aabnes ved at afrive Randen."

Issue of May, 1889.

Similar to the cards of the 25th October, 1888, with the same stamps and perforation. Outside the perforation at foot is an instruction, as stated in the Communication quoted above, meaning: "The card is opened by tearing off the border."

4 öre, blue on cream.

8 ,,, carmine ,,,

Varieties. Without perforation.

4 öre, blue on cream.

8 ,,, carmine ,,,

With the card white on both sides.

8 öre, carmine on white.

* * *

In 1890 a slight alteration was made in the wording of the instruction, which led the Director-General of Posts to issue a further communication upon this important point:—

"Official Communication."

March 11th, 1890.

"The attention of the Post Offices is drawn to the fact that the note hitherto borne by the Letter Cards: *Kortet aabnes ved at afrive Randen*, will be replaced by the following:—

"Man aabner Kortet ved at afrive Randen."

"The present cards will of course remain available for use."

Issue of September and December, 1890.

The same as the preceding, with the exception of the alteration in the instruction described above, the new form meaning: "One opens the card by tearing off the border." This change, with the "Official Communication" referring thereto, must be supposed to have been absolutely necessary.

September, 1890. 4 öre, blue on cream.

December ,,, 8 ,,, carmine ,,,

Varieties (1899?). Card white on both sides.

4 öre, blue on white.

8 ,,, carmine ,,,

* * *

The 4 and 8 öre Letter Cards were withdrawn from use on the 1st October, 1902. The Circular dated August 27, 1902 (see page 163, vol. xviii, *Monthly Journal*), announced a new issue and withdrew from circulation the preceding Letter Cards.

Issue of October 1st, 1902.

Similar in every way to the issue of 1890, except that the stamps are in the type of 1885, with large figures in the corners. Greyish-white* card.

5 öre, yellow-green.

10 ,,, carmine.

* * *

A circular dated March 22, 1904, quoted in connection with the envelopes (see page 132, vol. viii), announced the issue of Letter Cards similarly surcharged.

Issue of April 1st, 1904.

The cards of 1890 with the central oval of the stamp surcharged, in black, with an oval of engine-turned pattern showing uncoloured figures in the centre, and with small figures covering those in the oval band.



"5," in black, on 4 öre, blue on cream.

"10," ,,, 8 ,,, carmine ,,,

Varieties. With the card white on both sides.

"5," in black, on 4 öre, blue on white.

"10," ,,, 8 ,,, carmine ,,,

* From this period the face of the card seems to be always of a much lighter tint than that of the early cards, but I have never seen a specimen that was quite white on both sides.—E. B. E.

The issue consisted of—

181,225 of the "5" on 4 öre.
176,975 " "10" on 8",

* * *

Issue of March, 1906.

The Postal Circular of the 25th November, 1905 (see page 204, vol. xviii, *Monthly Journal*), announced the issue of Letter Cards with stamps bearing the effigy of King Christian IX. The type is that used for the wrappers and post cards of the same period, and the formula of the letter cards remained unchanged. Cards as in October, 1902.

5 öre, dull green.
10 " , vermilion.

* * *

Issues of March and September, 1907.

In accordance with the Official Communication of March 28, 1907 (see page 205, vol. xviii, *Monthly Journal*), the preceding letter cards were superseded, as the stocks became exhausted, by precisely similar cards bearing the stamp with portrait of King Frederick VIII, as upon the wrappers and post cards of 1907. Card as in October, 1902.

March 13, 1907. 5 öre, dull green.
September " , 10 " , vermilion.

* * *

OFFICIAL POST CARDS.

Post Cards for official use were introduced on the 1st April, 1871, in accordance with the Postal Circular of the 30th March of that year (see page 264, vol. xviii, *Monthly Journal*).

Issue of April 1st, 1871.

Formula with a Greek-pattern frame, 135 x 69 mm., like that of the ordinary cards of the same date. Stamp of the type of the Official adhesives at upper right, no Arms at left (the Arms being shown upon the stamp). Inscription in upper centre "T J E N E S T E - B R E V KORT.", followed by the usual instruction "(Paa denne Side skrives kun Adressen.)" and the word "Til" in italics. White card.

2 sk., ultramarine, deep ultramarine.
4 " , carmine.

There are several varieties of the figures and letters denoting the values.

* * *

The change in the currency caused the same modification in these cards as in the case of the adhesive stamps, etc.

Issue of January 1st, 1875.

Similar to the preceding, with the value of the stamps expressed in öre, instead of shilling. White card, surfaced and un-faced.

4 öre, ultramarine, pale blue.
8 " , carmine, deep rose.

Varieties. With a corner ornament the first turn of the pattern at upper left.

4 öre, pale ultramarine.
8 " , carmine.

With a corner ornament for the first turn at lower right.

8 öre, carmine.

Several varieties of the figure "4," probably of the figure "8" also.

* * *

Issue of March, 1885.

Similar to the last, but in the larger square frame 129 x 80 mm., of the ordinary cards of 1879, but without lines for the address. White card.

4 öre, pale blue.
8 " , carmine.

* * *

Issue of October 1st, 1888.

Additional values, corresponding with those of the ordinary cards of the same date. Similar to the preceding, but with four dotted lines for the address, the first headed "To" in italics as before.

3 öre, grey.
5 " , yellow-green.

* * *

PRIVATE LOCAL POSTS.

The numberless varieties issued by the private posts have no interest whatever to philatelists. I shall not attempt to describe them, the great majority having had other object than the exploitation of collectors.

The first of the local posts was that of Holte; it dates from 1870, and the undertaking was purchased by the Government on the 25th March, 1878.

Afterwards arose those of Copenhagen, 1880; Horsens, in 1883; Aarhus, in 1884; Aalborg, Odense, and Randers, in 1885; Kolding and Viborg, in 1886; Svendborg and Veile, in 1887; and lastly Fredericia, 1889.

The Copenhagen post received the following official authorization:—

"Copenhagen, June 17, 1878.
"Ministry of the Interior.

"SIRS.—In reply to your letter of the 28th last month, you are hereby informed that the Department of Posts and Telegraphs grants permission:—

"1. For you to set up in various places in Copenhagen and its suburbs boxes for telegrams, in order that the public may deposit in them the elegraphic messages intended for the town and local telegraph service, which you are going to establish and carry on.

"2. For you to issue, for the same purpose, stamps for the franking of the said telegrams, with the condition, in any case, that the said boxes and the said stamps must be of a form that no way resembles that of the boxes and stamps of the Post Office Department.

"The Department of Posts and Telegraphs further permits you to receive and distribute in Copenhagen and in its suburbs, letters and small parcels addressed to places in the city and outskirts.

"Signed: SKEEL.

"Countersigned: ARLAND.

"To Messrs. S. Lauritzen, Engineer of the Telegraphs, and Tanlouv, clerk in the Telegraph Department."

It was as a result of this authorization that the first stamps of this local post made their appearance, on the 1st September, 1880.

The majority of the local posts mentioned above were either purchased or suppressed under the Law relating to Posts, dated the 5th April, 1888, which says:—

"§ 1. In future it is forbidden in Copenhagen, in the provincial towns, and in business centres, without special permission from the Post Office Department, to set up letter boxes, or to establish posts or offices for the transmission of letters and of packets of the nature of letters, or, by the setting up of letter boxes or the creation of fresh offices, to add to the organizations of this nature at present in existence."

Thus, if local posts were no longer authorized in 1888, what are we to think of all the issues of 1889?

I must, however, acknowledge that, in spite of this law, I myself made use of the local post of Copenhagen, when passing through that city in July, 1889. Whether that post had been granted a special reprieve or fresh authorization, I am unable to say.

A law of the 10th December, 1896, modifies the prohibition contained in the law of the 5th April, 1888, as follows:—

"In future, in the places where the post offices carry out the collection of letters from the letter boxes and the distribution of correspondence *more than once a day*,* it is forbidden, without special permission, etc. etc. etc." (as in the law previously quoted).

* The italics are mine.—TRANS.

(*To be continued.*)

Notes on Great Britain

By the late THOMAS PEACOCK

AMONG the philatelic accumulations of the late Mr. Thomas Peacock, formerly Inspector of Stamping at Somerset House, which were sold by auction some two years ago, was an interleaved copy of *The Postage and Telegraph Stamps of Great Britain*, by F. A. Philbrick and W. A. S. Westoby, extra-illustrated with a large number of stamps, proofs, etc., which were in many cases pasted over the illustrations of the book, and further rendered interesting by manuscript notes in the hand of Mr. Peacock himself. A great part of the stamps and proofs had been removed before I saw the book, and were, I believe, sold separately; but the book itself, and the MS. notes, came into the hands of Messrs. C. Nissen and Co., who showed them to me, and who have very kindly permitted me to take copies of the notes and to make use of them, which I now propose to do.

E. B. E.

At the beginning of the book was inserted a proof of the Mulready design, on India paper, mounted on ordinary paper, with a note—"Early India Proof of the Mulready Envelope. From the brass plate. With

autograph of Rowland Hill." On the back of the paper the same inscription, with the addition—"The attached paper was signed by Sir Rowland Hill *in situ*, as he could not write upon the India paper. T. P. 1 May, 1890." This, of course, refers to the fact that the autograph was written upon a slip of ordinary paper pasted on the proof. This seems to be always the case with these signed proofs of the Mulready. Noting that this was described as an "early" proof, "from the brass plate," I compared this impression with others on India paper, as it is supposed that there are similar proofs from the stereotypes, or from one of them; but I can find nothing to distinguish with certainty one class of proof from another, or, indeed, to indicate that any of the proofs of the design alone, *without lettering*, were not printed from the brass plate.

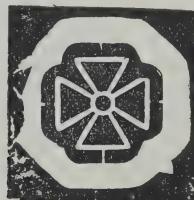
Following this were portraits of some of the "Hill" family, with a note upon Mr. Thomas Wright Hill, the father of Rowland.

Attached to the frontispiece were some proofs of watermark dies, described as follows:—

"The attached proofs are from the steel block dies which made the 'bits' which were

sewn by wire on the wire gauze of the "mould" or "dandy-roll," T. P." That is to say, the "moulds" or "dandy-rolls" used in manufacturing the paper for various stamps. Of these proofs I am able to give illustrations below, Messrs. Nissen and Co. having been so kind as to lend me the blocks they had made for this purpose. We can see from these that the "steel block dies" had the designs of the watermarks cut into them, thus showing in white in the proofs; a more or less thick outline of metal was left round the engraved design, and the remainder was cut away. Through the outer line were cut little channels, which thus produced short projections of thin brass, serving, no doubt, as wires to attach the bits to the gauze. There is no sign of any cutting edges to the dies, by which the bits could be punched out (in fact, the edges are plainly thick and flat), and I feel no doubt that the "bits" are produced by the same process as those for the elaborate watermarks of the Bank of England Notes and the Postal Orders.

This process, a remarkably simple one when once discovered, was invented and patented by a Mr. Smith, in 1848, whose son, Mr. F. C. Smith, exhibited and explained it to the Prince and Princess of Wales (then Duke and Duchess of York), on the occasion of their Royal Highnesses' visit to the Bank of England on July 7, 1897, to witness the destruction of the dies and plates of the Hospital Fund stamps. Upon the steel block, securely attached to a table or bench, is fixed a thin sheet of brass; the surface of the latter is then carefully filed, with the result that the portions resting upon the flat surface of the steel are filed away, while the portions not thus supported are pressed into the lines cut in the steel and give an exact reproduction of those lines (the white lines shown in the illustrations) in very thin brass. The surrounding portions, represented by the large white spaces, would be removed, leaving the bits ready for use.



e.



f.



g.



h.

The watermarks shown are:—(a) The letters "V R," as found in some of the fiscal



a.

stamps; this block, curiously enough, has the date "APR 1870" engraved upon it, which we may presume was when these bits were first made. (b)

The Larger Garter; the outer black ring gives this a curious appearance, it should be disregarded in looking at the design; the Garter consists of the two white rings, joined together by the buckle and the four little bars,

the outer white projections forming the wires for attaching it to the gauze. (c) and (d) are

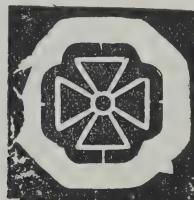


c.

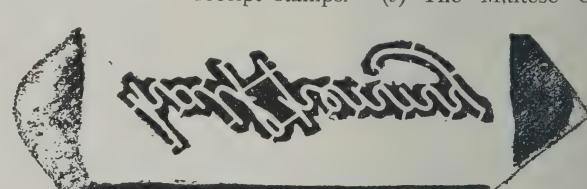


d.

two small Anchors, one of which is probably that found in the first 2½d. and in the small receipt stamps. (e) The Maltese Cross



e.



f.



g.



h.

(f) The word "*Halfpenny*"; and (g) and (h) the words "*Postage Stamps*," watermarked in the margins of sheets.

* * *

At the head of page 49 of the book, on which commences the portion descriptive of the stamps, etc., was written :—

"Introduction of 1d. Postage."

	1st Plate Registered.	First Issue.
"Mulready . . .	7 April, 1840.	27 April, 1840.
Postage Label	15 Apl., 1840.	13 May, 1840.
Embossed Env.	20 Jan., 1841.	20 Jan., 1841 (?) T. PEACOCK."

And on page 51 the date of issue of "THE ONE PENNY" is altered from "6th" to "13th May, 1840." I mention this note particularly because, so far as the Penny adhesive and the Mulready are concerned, Mr. Peacock's dates of issue are quite wrong, and it would be interesting to know where he got them from and why he was so sure of his facts as to alter the date given in the book. There is no question at all that the Penny stamp was put on sale on the 1st of May, together with the Mulready covers and envelopes, and that must be considered the date of *issue*; they could be first used on the 6th of the month, and we all know that they were used on that date. Where then did Mr. Peacock get his idea of the "13th," a full week after the stamps were actually in use?

This was the date at which, according to Messrs. Wright and Creeke's book, the Two-pence was first put on sale at the General Post Office; that value was not ready for issue as early as the Penny, but specimens of it were attached to an official circular dated May 7th, and it seems possible that it was in circulation in some places before the 13th, but the actual date of its first use seems not yet to have been discovered. Probably it was some record of the supply of the Twopence to the G.P.O. that led Mr. Peacock astray.

The 27th of April is also incorrect for the issue of the Mulready covers and envelopes, but the *imprimatur* sheets of these, exhibited in 1897 by the Commissioners of Inland Revenue, were marked as having been printed, the 1d. and 2d. covers and the 2d. envelope on the 7th of April, and the 1d. envelope on the 27th, while all four were approved on the latter date. In this case Mr. Peacock seems to have translated the dates of *impression* and *approval* into dates of *approval* and *issue*. It is also of interest to note that the printing must have commenced before the official date of *approval*!

"Proof from the original Die engraved by Fred. Heath in March, 1840, from a drawing by H. Corbould."

And lower down was written—

"Bacon and Co. paid:—

"Corbould, £12.

"Heath, £52 10 0."

Mr. Peacock therefore believed the engraver to have been Frederick Heath, but the book says "Charles Heath" (page 70).

At the top of page 51 there had been a stamp, described as "stamp from deepened die Pl. 66," and by the side of this was a die proof, showing the word "NEW" at top and a figure "3" below (both backwards, being cut the right way for reading upon the die), with the description, "Proof of deepened die after the figure three was put upon it. T. P."

On page 53 of the book the following paragraph occurs :—

" . . . At the close of the year 1879, the Government decided on adopting the typographic or surface mode of printing for the stamps in this section which was in use for the other values then current, and Messrs. De La Rue and Co. became the successful competitors for the new contract."

To this Mr. Peacock added a very interesting note:—

"The decision was really that of Sir Charles Herries, the then chairman. Our Department (the practical one) was not consulted upon the point; in fact, discussion of the relative merits of recess and surface printing was expressly put aside and only surface printers were invited to tender, with the exception of Bacon and Co., who, however, were only allowed to tender for surface printing. Upon this the decision was a foregone conclusion, as De La Rue and Co. were unquestionably the best manufacturers of surface-printed stamps.

"Bacon and Co. sent in a tender for surface printed stamps, with the intention of preparing their plates by the indenting process of their recess plates.

"The accompanying illustrations," which had been removed before I saw the book, "are from indented surface plates.

"Artistically, of course, 'recess' is immeasurably superior to 'surface,' and in the hands of better business men than Bacon and Co. would probably never have been discarded.

"Bacon and Co. worked their beautiful process in the roughest conceivable manner. De La Rue their surface printing with the minutest mechanical accuracy and refinement, although they were very destitute of anything approaching to artistic feeling and taste."

Philatelists will not, I think, be inclined to endorse all Mr. Peacock's criticisms. The original *black* Penny stamp is universally acknowledged to be a model, both in design and execution, of what a stamp should be, and Messrs. Perkins Bacon and

Co. have since produced other work of similar nature, and of the very highest class. Some of the earlier stamps, both British and Colonial, produced by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. are not usually regarded as being so entirely devoid of artistic merit; they were finely engraved, and the excellent execution of all the company's work is undisputed. The fact is, that if stamps have to be produced at the cheapest possible rate, one must not expect the very finest work in plates for either "recess" or "surface" printing; fine lines will always wear out more quickly than coarser ones, and when enormous numbers of impressions are required, the wear and tear is very considerable, especially in "recess" printing.

I do not know whether any stamps have ever been surface-printed from plates produced by the "indenting process," as Mr. Peacock terms it; but we do know that the reverse took place, in the case of the stamps of Sicily, which were printed in "recess" from plates produced by electrotyping.

On page 59 of the book it is stated that—

"A sheet of stamps printed in black from Die II, prior to the adoption of the lettering in the four angles, was exhibited by Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co. at South Kensington, from which one million of impressions had been taken without any appreciable wear of the plate."

In reference to this, Mr. Peacock says:—

"The highest number in our books is that of Plate 1⁵⁶₆, which printed 982,500 sheets."

The list given in the *History of the Adhesive Stamps of the British Isles*, by Messrs Wright and Creeke, shows that this was Plate 140, Current No. 156; but there were two earlier plates, also of Die II, each of which produced more than a million impressions: No. 27, 1,011,900, noted as "not worn out," and No. 36, 1,004,900; these seem to have escaped Mr. Peacock's notice.

(To be continued.)

A History of the Post Office and the Stamps of Malta

By LIEUT. W. R. GATT, Royal Malta Artillery

(Continued from page 74.)

The Halfpenny Local Stamps

General Remarks.

THE earlier stamps of Malta, being of uniform denomination and colour, have never played an important part in Philately; but of late much has been said and discussed—without any definite conclusion—regarding the exact date of issue of



each of the printings of the halfpenny yellow stamp.

To the medium and advanced collector these notes should be of some utility, as a few varieties, hitherto unknown to the philatelic world, have been brought to light. Date-postmarked stamps on the original cover have enabled me to investigate the history of these puzzling stamps more fully than has hitherto been possible, and many points in doubt can now be cleared up.

According to a Government Gazette dated 24th March, 1859, a resolution was passed in

Council to expend a sum not exceeding £100, the cost of a die for a penny (half penny?) postage stamp for the transmission of letters by the Island post. This is apparently the order for the first stock of Malta stamps. The resolution was put into effect on the 30th April, 1859, when the order was sent to Messrs. De La Rue and Co., London.

The stamps were issued late in the year 1860. They were only available for local letters, in accordance with the following Government Notice; letters for abroad being franked by the English stamps the current, the revenue from which went into Imperial Funds.

"Government Notice."

"His Excellency the Governor having been pleased to order a daily delivery of inland letters and newspapers in the town of Valletta, Floriana and Sliema, and the erection of letter boxes in different parts of Valletta for the greater convenience of the public, notice is hereby given that on and after the 1st of December, 1860, properly and clearly addressed letters placed in such boxes will be treated in every respect as if posted at the General Post Office (English Post Office), provided such letters, if destined for the Island Post, bear the Malta Halfpenny Stamp in proportion to their weight, and if destined for other countries be properly stamped, according to the regulations laid down in the Malta Postal Guide."

"The Island deliveries will be as follows:—

"3. The letters or newspapers for other places in Malta and for Gozo will continue to be despatched as at present and will be exhibited at the respective Police Stations.

"4. A rate of one halfpenny for every letter of a weight not exceeding half an ounce and an additional halfpenny for every additional half ounce or fraction of a half ounce will be chargeable on letters so delivered, and this postage must in all cases be paid in advance by means of local postage stamps of the value of one halfpenny each, which may be purchased at the Post Office, at all Police Stations, and at the principal stationers' shops in the town.

"No charge will be made for newspapers.

"5. It should, however, be particularly borne in mind that these local postage stamps will not be available for prepaying ANY letters intended to be forwarded to any place beyond the Islands of Gozo and MALTA, and that letters not intended for either of these Islands which may be found to have such local stamps affixed to them, will be considered as unpaid and treated accordingly.

"By Command,

(sd) "V. HOUTON,
Chief Secretary to Government.

"Palace, VALLETTA,
"Nov. 16th, 1860."

The following letter gives the number of stamps ordered from Messrs. De La Rue and Co. from 1859 to 1866:—

"LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S OFFICE,
"Malta, 18th October, 1904.

"No. 2841.

"SIR,—In reply to your enquiry of the 10th inst., I have the honour to inform you that the following amounts of halfpenny stamps were supplied to the Government by the Crown Agents for the Colonies in the following years, viz:—

In 1859 100 sheets = 24,000 stamps (face value £50).
" 1861 106 " = 25,440 " (" £53).
" 1862 109 " = 26,160 " (" £54.
" 1863 115 " = 27,600 " (" £57 10).
" 1864 107 " = 25,680 " (" £53 10).
" 1865 102 " = 24,480 " (" £51).
" 1866 205 " = 49,200 " (" £102 10).

"I have the honour to be, Sir,

"Your obedient servant,

(sd) "GEO. BORG CARDONA,
"for a/Lieut.-Gov. and Chief Secretary
to Government.

"W. R. Gatt, Esq., R.M.A."

The printings (if I may be allowed to call them so) of the halfpenny yellow stamp are fourteen in number; and each exists in one or more shades, which may be regarded as minor varieties and about which the average collector need not trouble himself.

I find that the stamps were ordered from the Agents-General for the Colonies at intervals of about one year up to 1866, according to the official record, and I have every reason to believe that the orders from 1866 to 1880 were biennial; as would appear from the list of the fourteen printings com-

piled from copies which have been seen on the original cover.

Oliver Firth, in his work *Postage Stamps and their Collection*, mentions the Malta halfpenny stamp on bluish paper as imperforate. It was even so catalogued by Moens in 1891. Although the stamp in this condition was seen in an English collection at the Berlin Philatelic Exhibition in 1904, and although a similar copy was for sale in December, 1904, at one of Messrs. Ventom, Bull, and Cooper's stamp auctions, I have been assured on good authority that the stamp was never issued imperforate. Probably a leakage from *proof sheets* may account for these copies, which are unused and with the original gum.

I have seen a third copy, but with Crown and CC watermark, and on white paper, through the kindness of Mr. J. C. North, of Huddersfield, who has had it in his possession for about eight years.

Table showing the fourteen printings of the Malta halfpenny yellow stamp:—

No.	Date.	Colour.	Perforation.	Wmk.	Remarks.
1	Oct. 12. 60.	Buff on bluish	14	None	Shades.
2	Nov. 6r	Buff-orange	14	"	
3	1862	Bistre	14	"	
4	1863	Buff	14	Cr. & CC	
5	1864	Brown-orange	14	"	
6	1865	Yellow-buff	12½	"	Rough perf.
7	1866	Buff	12½	"	Clean-cut perf.
8	1868	Bright orange	14	"	
9	1870	Dull orange	14	"	
10	1872	Yellow-orange	14	"	
11	1874	Golden yellow	14	"	Yellow at back.
12	1876	Brown-orange	14	"	
13	1878	Yellow-buff	14 X 12½	"	Or 12½ X 14
14	1880	Yellow-buff	14	Cr. & CA	

The following notes will explain the differences existing between the various printings:—

I. The first consignment of Malta stamps was received in the Island in August, 1859, and issued to the public on the first day of December, 1860. This was the halfpenny, buff, perforated 14, on unwatermarked bluish paper.

It is argued by many that this was not the first stamp issued, but that it is the one that followed the issue on white paper. One of the specimens in my collection shows the date 7th August, 1861. As the second supply of Malta stamps was not received from the Agents-General for the Colonies until August 31, 1861, there is not the slightest

doubt that the halfpenny, *buff*, on *bluish* paper was the first stamp issued.

Another point in favour of the stamp on *bluish* is that the "M" postmark was discontinued about the end of the year 1860. It is only stamps on *bluish* paper that are met with cancelled by an "M," and never those on white paper.

I reproduce a letter from the Lieutenant-Governor and Chief Secretary to the Government of Malta in further support of my statements. Reference to Gilbert Lockyer's *Colonial Stamps*, as suggested by the last paragraph of the following letter, cost me the sum of six shillings, to no practical purpose, as the dates of issue in the book do not agree with those mentioned in the letter:—

"From Lieutenant W. R. Gatt,
Royal Malta Artillery,
"To the Chief Secretary to Government, Malta.

"MALTA, April 11, 1904.

"SIR,—I have the honour to request that you may be so good as to furnish me with all available information regarding the first postage stamp of Malta, halfpenny, *buff*.

"As there are many varieties of this stamp arising out of watermark, perforation and shade, owing to various printings, I shall be glad if you will kindly state the value of each stock, and the date when each printing was received from the Crown Agents for the Colonies and issued to the public.

"I have the honour to be, Sir,
"Your obedient Servant,
"W. R. GATT."

"No. 1022.

"LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S OFFICE,
"MALTA, April 14, 1904.

"SIR,—With reference to your inquiry of the 11th inst. relating to the early issues of Malta Halfpenny Postage Stamps, I have the honour to inform you that

"(a) The first halfpenny postage stamps were ordered from Messrs. De La Rue and Co., of London, on the 30th April, 1859, and were received in this colony in August of the same year.

"(b) The first issue of halfpenny stamps was first offered for sale to the public on the 1st December, 1860.

"(c) The second issue of halfpenny stamps was received from the Agents-General for the Colonies on the 31st August, 1861.

"(d) Halfpenny stamps were ordered to* the Agents-General at intervals of about one year, in 1859, 1861, 1862, 1863, 1864, 1865, and 1866. This can be verified by reference to *Colonial Stamps*, by Gilbert Lockyer, in which all the postal issues of the British Colonies up to June, 1887, are noted.

"I have the honour to be, Sir,
"Your obedient Servant,
(sd) "F. C. FULLER.

"For Lieutenant-Governor and
"Chief Secretary to Government.
"W. R. Gatt, Esq., R.M.A."

* Presumably this means that "orders were sent to the Agents-General," otherwise "to" should be "from."—E. B. E.

The first order for this stamp was very urgent (although it was not sold to the public until fifteen months later), and as the manufacturers were hard at work with other colonial stamps, a very limited supply was sent out to Malta.

Owing to the limited internal correspondence at the time, stamps were very rarely employed. This fact accounts for the very few specimens bearing the 1860-1 postmark. Those used in December, 1860, may be found cancelled with a letter "M" of two different sizes, $7\frac{1}{2} \times 9\frac{1}{2}$ mm., and $6\frac{1}{2} \times 9\frac{1}{2}$ mm. ($9\frac{1}{2}$ mm. being the height). The "M" measuring $7\frac{1}{2} \times 9\frac{1}{2}$ mm. was in use in 1857 the other in 1858-9. The earliest known use of "A 25" is August 22, 1859. The stamps so cancelled are very scarce and fetch very high prices, as this cancellation determines the exact period when the stamp was used.

A few specimens of this stamp may be found penmarked. There were no taxes to be collected by means of stamps at that time, and there can be no doubt that the stamps thus cancelled had been genuinely used for postal purposes; the same thing occurred elsewhere in the early days of the use of stamps, and occasionally happens still.

These local stamps were practically employed on private letters only, and hardly ever on business correspondence. Letters of a domestic nature were generally destroyed as soon as their contents were read—and with them the stamps—otherwise they were sold as waste paper to the firework manufacturers, who are abundant in the villages of Malta, and who, with a view to a purchase visit the houses of people who are likely to have correspondence or newspapers. These are some of the reasons why out of 24,000 stamps of this issue there are no more than fifty copies in the hands of Maltese collectors.

At this period there was no house-to-house delivery, but letters were left at the Police Station to be called for. This was so inconvenient to the public that in most cases communication between one person and another in different villages was done by means of private carriers (in Maltese "carrier" means *runner*).

II. A new printing of the stamp was received from the Agents-General for the Colonies in August, 1861, and was issued to the public in November of the same year. This time the stamp is of a brighter colour and may be said to be *buff-orange*. The paper is *white* and unwatermarked. It is never found with the "M" cancellation, but only with the "A 25" or the dated postmark, the latter two, as I have said before, always accompanying each other.

A variety of this issue on vertically laid

paper was reported in *The American Journal of Philately* in 1894. Its existence is, however, doubtful; as the manufacturers never made use of this paper.

III. This issue, although sent out to Malta in 1862, is supposed to have been a part of the stock of the previous printing. The paper is again *white* without any watermark, but the differences of paper and colour render it necessary to chronicle it as a new printing. The paper is rather thin, and the colour is light or faded *buff*, or better still, *bistre*.

Some philatelists argue that in 1861 the manufacturers printed a considerably greater number of sheets than was actually required, but that only the quantity ordered was sent out to Malta. Consequently when the 1862 requisition for halfpenny stamps reached England, the supply was made up of the sheets printed a year ago, and that the stamps had by that time lost their colour to some extent.

IV and V. In 1863 the printers began to use the paper with a watermark (Crown and CC) for all the Colonial stamps which were printed by them. As a consequence a new issue appeared in 1863 on watermarked paper. This and the one printed in 1864 differ only in shade; the former being *buff*, and the latter *brown-orange*.

So far all the stamps were perforated 14.

The following cutting from *Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal*, April, 1901, may be of interest here:—

"MALTA.—We are shown a specimen of the 1d., *buff*, wmk. Crown and C C, perf. 14, postmarked 'Ja. 11. 62,' showing that the date of issue is at least a year earlier than that given in the Catalogue."

This is evidently a mistake in the obliterating stamp, as Messrs. De La Rue and Co. did not make use of watermarked paper before 1863.

VI and VII. In 1865 and 1866 the stamp was printed in a fresh shade for each year, viz. *yellow-buff* and *buff*. This time I find the perforations gauge 12½ all round in both cases, but in the former they are very rough, whilst they are clean cut in the latter.

VIII. A new stock of stamps of a most beautiful, intense *orange* colour was supplied to the Government in 1868. The paper used is finer and more adapted to take the impression, which comes out most clearly. This issue is undoubtedly the best executed of all. It is watermarked as before, and the perforation gauges 14.

IX. The issue of 1870 presents a great contrast to the preceding; the design, although printed from the same plate, being rather blurred. Watermark and perforation as before.

X. In 1872 a new stock was received. Had it not been for the gauge of its perforation, which is 14, it would not have differed from the 1865 issue.

I have a stamp of this issue in my collection with inverted watermark. I have not seen any other copies of this variety, and as I have examined a large number I presume there was only one sheet so issued. This variety may not be considered of any importance by collectors, but then why should stamps with the watermark sideways, as in the case of the Falkland Islands, be chronicled and catalogued at such high prices? The opinion of dealers regarding watermark varieties is that the way in which the sheet is put into the press is of no importance, one side of the paper being as good as another to the printer.

XI. The *golden yellow* halfpenny of 1874 is by far the richest of all in colour. It resembles the 1872 issue, but owing to the printing ink having been well soaked in and absorbed by the paper, the colour has tinted the back of the stamp. Watermark and perforation as before.

XII. The printers must surely have made some mistake in mixing the ink in 1876, as the halfpenny stamp appeared in *brown-orange*. The stock must have been very limited indeed, as very few specimens of this shade have been met with. Same watermark and perforation.

XIII. The issue of the year 1878 is only different from that of 1872 in the gauge of its perforation, which is 14×12½ or vice versa, a quite novel feature for Malta.

XIV. In 1880 a stock in a *yellow-buff* tint was received, and this bore a new watermark, Crown and CA, instead of the old Crown and CC. None were issued for sale until July, 1881. When the 1885 set came into use, the stamp of 1881 was employed concurrently with the halfpenny *green* until the stock was exhausted. It is said that the postmaster at the time, foreseeing the rise in value, bought a good part of the stock remaining on the 31st December, 1884, and carried it with him to England. This would account for the very small number of stamps of this issue that are met with in Malta.

Sheet Arrangement.

The sheet consists of four panes, each containing sixty stamps in ten horizontal rows of six each; the panes are separated horizontally by a space equal in size to one horizontal row of stamps, watermarked "CROWN AGENTS" * in large type, and

* This is the watermark of the Crown and "CA" paper; that with watermark Crown and "CC" has the words "CROWN COLONIES" across the centre and twice at each side.—E. B. E.

showing printed on it in the same colour as the stamps, "MALTA POSTAGE—ONE HALF-PENNY"; and vertically by a space of about $6\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

The margin around the sheet is watermarked along each vertical side with the words "CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES", and bears the plate numbers (two in a sheet) one in right upper corner and one in left

lower corner. The top and bottom margins are unwatermarked. The arrangement of the sheets of the 1860, 1861, and 1862 issues is the same in all respects, except that the paper is not watermarked in any way.

The plate number is an uncoloured numeral ("1" in this instance) on a tinted circular disc of the same colour as the stamp.

(To be continued.)

Philatelic Notes and Queries

By E. B. EVANS

Switzerland

THE "plating" of stamps which show varieties of type in the sheets has long been a favourite occupation for philatelists, and the early Federal issues of Switzerland have tried the eyesight of many a collector. In an article by Mr. A. J. Séfi on the "Silk Thread" issues in *The Philatelic World*, the author shows that a good deal might be done in the way of plating some of the values of those stamps, if only materials in the way of blocks, etc., were obtainable. The varieties are not of type, but of defect, and I gather that in the 5 rappen, at all events, almost every stamp shows some defect by which it can be identified; in some instances the peculiarities are very marked, and it appears that they existed from the very commencement of the issue, and that the defective clichés were never replaced. It is not likely that any additions will have to be made to the varieties listed in the catalogues, but close study is rewarded in this case, as in so many others, by the discovery that there is still something to be learned even about stamps that have been before us for half a century.

* * *

Rare United States Envelopes

THE subject of postal stationery is one that I do not often refer to, for it is one that unhappily receives very scant attention from philatelists of the present day, and it seems useless to attempt to arouse their interest in it. My readers, however, will I hope pardon my referring to an article with the above title, by Messrs. Victor M. Berthold and J. Murray Bartels, which appeared in *The American Philatelist* for 1908, and which has since reached me in the form of a separate pamphlet.

The Stamped Envelopes of the United States form a most difficult subject for study, and one which should therefore be very attractive to philatelists, if there is such a thing as a Science of Philately. There are varieties of type, varieties of paper,

varieties of size and shape, sufficient to occupy the attention of the most advanced students. In fact the varieties of type alone are sufficient to justify the neglect of the other points, and are *almost* sufficient to justify the collection of specimens cut square. The fact is, I think, that the true philatelist realizes that to cut the stamp out of an envelope is an inexcusable act of vandalism and feeling that he cannot find room for all the varieties in entire condition he abandons the study altogether, and thus both the envelopes and their stamps come to be equally neglected.

The authors of the work now before me have confined themselves to giving an account of the rarities to be found among the U.S. Envelopes; these rarities are few in number, some of them are believed to be unique, and all would take high place in any list in which adhesives and envelopes were arranged together in strict order of rarity, but if marketable value were the criterion I fear that the list would take a very different form. It is satisfactory to be able to believe that collectors on the other side of the Atlantic are taking a greater interest in the stamped envelopes of the own country, and such a book as this should be a stimulus to increased study of the subject. It is interesting to note that stamped envelopes are very largely used in the United States, more so apparently than any other part of the world. During 1908 the daily average was no less than 1 to 4 millions, the total for the year being 1,230,287,750, of which nearly 31 per cent were ordinary envelopes and rather more than 69 per cent "special request," that envelopes with the name and address of the sender printed in one corner, with a request that letters undelivered may be returned. These notices are printed by the Government on envelopes supplied to business firms, and the fact that this is done and that envelopes are supplied in a sufficient variety of sizes and shapes, is no doubt one great cause of their being so fully appreciated. The authorities encourage their use, having

pparently always been of opinion that stamped envelopes are far less open to fraudulent usage than adhesives are.

* *

Lithographed Canadian Envelope

WHILST dealing with the subject of rarities in the way of postal stationery, I should like to say a few words upon the 3 c. envelope of Canada, type of 1877, of which a small supply was said to have been lithographed in 1890. I have always been a little sceptical about its variety, but in view of the fact that a specimen was shown at a meeting of the Royal Philatelic Society, London, in a display of "twelve interesting varieties," I suppose I must doubt its existence no longer. It was first heard of, so far as I am aware, in 1896, the history being related in a letter published in *The London Philatelist* for January of that year. The story was, briefly, that, on some envelopes being requisitioned or in 1890, the embossing die was found to be missing, and in consequence a lithograph was prepared and the required envelopes, too in all, stamped by that means. The account is not a quite satisfactory one; it is difficult to understand how, in the absence of the die, the stone was produced, because the design was drawn upon the stone it might be expected to differ from the original in some describable details, which does not appear to be the case—the description given in *The L.P.* at the time merely says, "The two specimens forwarded are roughly lithographed imitations of the 1877 issue," and I have never seen any more detailed account. In May, 1896, what was stated to be a copy of the lithographed envelope was sent to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, who showed it to me, and I found that it was certainly not lithographed, there being slight traces of embossing about the head, especially in the vignette, and that the impression was practically identical, "as far as *almost* entire absence of embossing is concerned," with that on some envelopes that I had purchased at Post Office in Canada, in 1888, two years before the supposed lithographing was said to have taken place. I added, in the *Monthly Journal* for May, 1896, in which I described the envelope shown me—"If any envelopes have been lithographed, which we greatly doubt, this is not one of them." The question is, were any lithographed, or was the lithograph story put forward to account for some exceptionally poor impressions?

* *

Fiscal Stamp Collecting

DO not pretend to know anything about Fiscal Stamps, but my ignorance does not prevent me from recognizing the fact that their study is a very interesting branch of

Philately. From a historical point of view they may be said to be even more interesting than postage stamps, because they carry us a good deal further back, but they have never attained the same popularity among stamp collectors, partly perhaps on account of the high face value of many of them and partly from the great difficulty of their study. I do not know whether the popularity that they do possess is waning, but I regret to see that the magazine, largely devoted to Fiscal Philately, which Mr. Morley has published for the last nine years, has ceased to appear, the final volume having been issued in one number at the end of last year. The Fiscal Philatelic Society, however, is still in active existence, and is now publishing a monthly *Bulletin*, in which all fiscal novelties are to be described, and which will to some extent take the place of *Morley's Philatelic Journal*.

* *

The Philatelic Students Fellowship

THE existence of this modest little association of philatelists has been revealed to me by the receipt of a charming little book, containing the record of its proceedings during the past year. The book is "Printed for Private Circulation," but I hope I may be forgiven for making public reference to it here. I gather that the "Fellowship" has been founded upon the lines of the early philatelic Societies, and consists of a few earnest students, who meet at one another's houses in turn, display their collections to one another, listen to short papers, and discuss the subjects dealt with in the close and intimate way which is so pleasant and helpful, and which is perhaps only possible at informal meetings of intimate friends. The results of the meetings held during the year 1908, in the course of which the Fellowship was formed, are given in the book before me, which should certainly prove (as it is expressly intended to be) an inducement to the members to further promote the objects of their association. It is beautifully got up, and its twenty pages of letter-press are illustrated with no less than eight plates of photographic reproductions of the stamps described in the text. A happy little Society of this kind might well be formed in every town or district where there are half a dozen Fellows interested in stamps, and while they could not all be expected to produce such interesting work as in this particular case, their meetings could not fail to afford both pleasure and profit to their members.

* *

The Philatelic Record

As Mr. Phillips mentioned in the number of January 23rd, *The Philatelic Record* has

once again changed hands, and I now have before me the first number issued under the new management. I note a little increase in the size of the page, though it is not so noticeable as the change in the form which took place thirteen years ago; it is not taller than before, and indeed at the age of thirty growth in that direction could hardly be expected, but, like so many of us as we reach middle life, it has put on a little additional width, which is no disadvantage; "width and wisdom" go hand in hand, according to Mr. Weller senior, and I doubt not that it will be so in this case, and that at least equal wisdom will be displayed in the *Records* of the future as in those of the past.

There is one point in which the new conductors of the journal seem to have entirely broken away from the earlier traditions, and I do not suggest that they are wrong. The main object of *The Philatelic Record*, as originally started, was "to publish each month a record of all newly-issued stamps"; this was no doubt the origin of its title, and the most (one may perhaps say the *only*) complete record of "Novelties, Discoveries, and Resuscitations" then published in the English language was a conspicuous feature of its earlier volumes. In No. I, vol. xxxi, this feature is conspicuous by its absence; I do not say that it is a loss, the work of chronicling new issues and varieties is done in many other quarters, and it can best be done in a magazine published by a business firm whose business it is to obtain all the novelties; still as one of the old contributors (*quorum pars parva fui*) to one of our oldest magazines, it is with some regret that I record that *The Philatelic Record* has ceased to be a *record*.

At the same time I acknowledge that its pages are filled with more excellent matter; I congratulate Mr. Fulcher and all his fellow-workers; may they produce another thirty volumes, and break all previous records!

* *The Ph. R.*, vol. i, p. 1.

* * *

Orcha

IT seems that I have not completely listed the varieties of the stamps of this State. Mr. J. N. Luff tells me that he possesses an entire sheet of each value perforated and sheet of the 1 a. imperforate, without obliteration, so I find that uncancelled copies were supplied; and also a block of six (three vertical pairs) of the 1 a., without the horizontal perforation between the pairs, and a block of ten (five horizontal pairs) of the same value, without the vertical perforation between the pairs. All concerned seem to have done their best for this Anna!

* * *

A LITTLE problem of Philatelic Heraldry or Heraldic Philately, formed the subject of correspondence in some of the numbers of *The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*. What is the correct description of the Bulgarian Lion, who has been roaring so loudly of late as depicted upon the Bulgarian stamp? There seems to be no doubt that he should be represented as *Rampant*, but one writer claims that he is actually shown as *Salient*, which is quite a different thing. Parke's *Glossary of Terms used in Heraldry* says that the former "signifies rearing, but with the sinister hind leg and the sinister fore leg lower than the two dexter legs respectively." The lion is rarely represented rearing with both its hind legs touching the ground and its fore legs even; when it is so it is blazoned *salient*." It is quite evident that the fore legs of the Bulgarian Lion, shown on the stamps, are not even, although both the hind feet might touch the ground, if there were any ground to touch them. They are not by any means in the position of those of the Lion *salient*, which is usually drawn with its legs almost straight. I should be inclined to say that the animal is far more like a *rampant* than a *salient* Lion, but there is something to be said for the theory that he was intended to be neither the one nor the other, but a little of both; thus under Prince Ferdinand he was *salient* (the pounce), whilst under King (or Tsar) Ferdinand he is *rampant*.

New Issues and Discoveries

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Canada.—In our issue of December 26, 1908, we referred to some shades of the Tercentenary stamps about which Mr. Whipple wrote us, and some comment on this was published in the number for January 16, 1909. Mr. Whipple

now writes pointing out quite correctly that I had misread his communication, and he confirms what Mr. Stamford says as to the *toned* or *whited* paper. He, however, is of opinion that whatever toning is present has been done intentionally.

Costa Rica.—We are informed by Mr. E. B. Jwer that the following errors also exist inverted:—



PROVISORIO
OFICIAL
o 8

OFFICIAL STAMPS. 1903. Type 30 overprinted as Type o 8, in green.

Errors. (iii.) "PROVISORIO" inverted.
254a | 2 c., black and vermilion.
(iv.) "PROVISORIO" inverted.
254b | 2 c., black and vermilion.

Crete.—We have received a quantity of new varieties of lettering, etc., of the recent "ΕΛΛΑΣ" overprint, which we accordingly list below.

ΕΛΛΑΣ
34

PT. 21, 1908. Overprinted with Type 34 ("GREECE") in black.

Varieties. (i.) "Σ" inverted, reading "ΕΛΛΑΣ".

No.	Type.
143	9 | 10 l., scarlet.
146	34 | 25 l., black and blue.

ii.) "Δ" instead of "Α", reading "ΕΛΛΔΑΣ".
154 | 16 | 2 l., slate-lilac.

(iii.) "Ε" omitted, reading "ΛΛΑΣ".
167 | 17 | 5 l., green.

(vii.) Overprint reading "ΕΑΑΑΣ".

185	9 | 10 l., scarlet.
187	19 | 20 l., blue-green.

(viii.) "Σ" omitted, reading "ΕΛΛΑ".

190	17 | 5 l., green.
192	19 | 20 l., blue-green.

(ix.) Overprint inverted.

194	7 | 1 l., chocolate.
194a	16 | 2 l., slate-lilac.
194b	17 | 5 l., green.
195	9 | 10 l., scarlet.
196	21 50 l., brown.
197	22 1 dr., sepia and carmine.

(x.) Overprint double.

199	11 2 dr., brown.
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POSTAGE DUE STAMPS. Type 51 overprinted as above.

Varieties. (i.) "Σ" inverted, reading "ΕΛΛΑΣ".
220 | 1 l., red.

(vi.) "Α" inverted, reading "ΕΛΛΑΣ".

238	1 l., red.
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(viii.) "Σ" omitted, reading "ΕΛΛΑ".

242	1 l., red.
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(ix.) Overprint inverted.

245	1 l., red.
247	10 l., "
249	40 l., "
250	50 l., "
250a	1 dr. on 1 dr., red.
250b	2 dr., red.

OFFICIAL STAMPS. Nos. 251 and 252 overprinted as above.

Varieties. (i.) "Σ" inverted, reading "ΕΛΛΑΣ".

255	10 l., dull claret.
256	30 l., slate-blue.

(ii.) "Δ" instead of "Α", reading "ΕΛΛΔΑΣ".

257	10 l., dull claret.
258	30 l., slate-blue.

(ix.) Overprint inverted.

271	30 l., slate-blue.
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We have also seen varieties consisting of one stamp overprinted normally in a pair with another stamp without overprint. These will probably not be included in our Catalogue, but we note those we have seen as follows:—

POSTAGE STAMPS. 2 l., 5 l., 10 l. (both kinds).

POSTAGE DUE. 1 l.

Cuba.—Several contemporaries mention that the current stamps have been overprinted with the letter "T" in a circle for use as Postage Due stamps. *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* reports the receipt of the 1 c. and 2 c. with an overprint, "IMPRESOS," in violet. Both the above overprints suggest cancellation merely. We await fuller particulars before listing.

Honduras.—We have received three values of the 1896 and 1898 issues in an imperforate condition; they are, of course, lithographed on wove paper, and are normally perf. 11½.



18



19

1896. Type 18. Lithographed.
Varieties. Imperf.

103a	1 c., blue.
103b	1 c., vermilion.

1898. Type 19. Lithographed.
Variety. (ii.) Imperf.

115a	2 c., rose.
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India.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (6.2.09) reports the issue of the following high values on January 1, 1909. It also understands there is a 25 rupees, probably also issued on the same date.



52

JANUARY 1, 1909. Type 52. Centre in first colour.
Wmk. Star, Type 34. Perf. 14.

116	10 r., green and pink.
117	15 r., blue and brown.

Italian P.O.'s in the Levant.—*L'Echo de la Timbrologie* (15.1.09) chronicles the 15 c., Italy, surcharged for use here. Champion's *Bulletin Mensuel*, in listing the stamp, says it was surcharged at Rome. Presumably this is a mistake for Turin, but as the surcharge is of the same type as that on Nos. 838 to 841 probably this is another value for the same series.

20 Para 20

84

1909. Type 36 of Italy surcharged as Type 84, in violet.
839a|30 par. on 15 c., slate.

Martinique.—We have received two more values in the new type as follows. The name "L. Colmet-Daage" appears at foot of the stamp, but whether this is the designer or engraver we cannot say at present.



13

1909. Type 13. Centre, name, and value in first colour.
Perf. 13½×14.
75 | 5 c., purple-brown and green.
75 | 10 c., " and carmine.

Papua.—To the list of the permanent type must be added the following, issued probably end of November last:—



6

1908. Type 6. Lithographed. Centre in first colour.
Wmk. Crown and A. Perf. 11.
25. 6d., black and brown.

Mr. Ashby has shown us a fresh variety of the British New Guinea series without the surcharge. Thin paper. Wmk. horizontal.
2½d., black and ultramarine.

This has hitherto only been chronicled with the small "Papua" overprint.

Salvador.—We have been shown the 2 c. Postage Due stamp, Type 151, overprinted similarly to No. 988. We therefore list as follows:—

Type 151 with wheel in black, Type 202, and wide shield, Type 79, in violet.
988a| 2 c., orange.

Travancore.—We have received a new stamp for this State expressed in a different currency from that of previous issues. The wmk. and post remain as before, but the value is in cash. I believe the currency of Travancore is as follows: 16 cash = 1 chuckram; 28 chuckrams = 1 rupee. 16 c. = 4d., so that the English value of the stamp now issued is only one-eighth of a penny.



1908. Type 6. Wmk. Conch Shell, Type 2. Perf. 25| 4 cash, pink.

Turkey.—We have been shown blocks of 1 piastre, ultramarine, No. 260 in the Catalog with one horizontal line of perforation omitted thus vertical pairs, imperforate between, formed. This is an interesting variety, should prove fairly rare; but it is not practice to include such things in the Catalogue.

United States.—Our New York house has us a supply of the 1 c. and 2 c. of the latest *imperf.* These are sold for stamp vending and affixing machines. The shades are somewhat paler than those of the perforated stamps. It was rather a surprise to find that the 5 c. of 1902 series was sold in the same condition, our New York house sent us a small supply. The stamps are now obsolete, and the post authorities at the office of purchase said no more could be had. The next supply will probably be of the new issue.



93

1908. Type 93. Imperf.
440a| 5 c., blue.



112



113

1909. Types 112 and 113. Imperf.

461| 1 c., green.
462| 2 c., rose.

Manchester Stamp Exhibition and Philatelic Congress

CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

A BOUT a year ago the Manchester Branch of the Junior Philatelic Society, London, mooted the idea of an Exhibition in Manchester, and the parent Society proved the scheme drawn up, and a programme was prepared in due course.

Meantime friction arose between the Executive of the parent Society and that of the local Society. There is no need to enter into details here, but the result was that the Manchester Juniors severed all connection with the London Society and decided to carry out the Exhibition on their own account.

I am very pleased to be able to announce that the result of their work has been most successful, and I heartily congratulate the Manchester Junior Philatelic Society upon the decided success that has rewarded its efforts.

The Exhibition was held in the Hulme Town Hall, Stretford Road, Manchester. This fine hall is situated about a mile from the centre of the city, and is very convenient of access, being near the chief hotels and railway stations.

The Exhibition was under the patronage of the Earl of Crawford, K.T., and the Earl of Derby, C.B.

The Executive Committee consisted of the following gentlemen: Mr. I. J. Bernstein (Chairman), Mr. J. R. M. Albrecht (Secretary and Treasurer), Mr. D. A. Berry, Mr. A. Conboy, Mr. J. J. Darlow, Mr. G. F. Gibson, Mr. J. S. Higgins, Mr. W. Jung, Mr. R. Löwenhaupt, Mr. W. W. Munn, Mr. Taylor, Mr. J. H. Taylor, Mr. G. White, Mr. W. H. Woods.

The exhibits were arranged in a large and small hall, both being eminently suited for the purpose, as they are lofty and well lighted, and there were no top lights, which in some exhibitions have caused many delicate colours to fade.

The last Exhibition held in Manchester was ten years ago, and I am sure the Committee took a wise step in organizing this Exhibition, which will be sure to do much to popularize our hobby in the North of England.

The Opening Ceremony

Was attended by a large crowd, the great hall being well filled. Amongst those present noticed the Earl of Crawford, the Lord Mayor of Manchester, Major E. B. Evans, Messrs. Beckton, Gibson, Castle, W. M. Gray, Wade, Sanderson, Abbott, J. S.

Higgins, M. Albrecht, P. C. Bishop, S. E. Gwyer, F. Reichenheim, and many others.

Mr. I. J. BERNSTEIN (Chairman of the Executive Committee), in welcoming the Lord Mayor of Manchester, stated that he welcomed also the large number of philatelists and friends who had combined to make the Exhibition a success. This was a great day for Manchester philatelists, and few, except those who had helped, had any idea of the immense amount of work and detail there was in organizing an exhibition of stamps. Many people also lost sight of the fact that busy business men put their business on one side and devoted a great deal of time to helping this Exhibition, and he thanked them all for the work they had done.

One of the objects of the present Exhibition was to show the advance that had taken place in study in connection with stamp collecting. In the old days one took any kind of stamp, or even half a stamp, and fixed it in a book with gum or cement. Nowadays, however, collectors studied their stamps, and wrote them up carefully and fully.

In conclusion Mr. Bernstein called on the Lord Mayor to open the Exhibition.

Alderman HOLT (Lord Mayor of Manchester) said that one of the penalties of a man who took up the position he held was that he had to preside at many meetings dealing with all kinds of subjects, but he never anticipated, when he took office, being called upon to open an Exhibition of Postage Stamps.

He well remembered that when a boy at school he had a collection of stamps, and then his ambition was to have something better than his fellow schoolmates. In those days they not only fixed their stamps in with cement, but they sometimes pinned them in.

Nowadays he did not look upon stamp collecting as a hobby, but as a science, and he considered that to collect stamps was really an education, as it taught so much, such as to know where all places were. Collecting stamps helped to keep the brain alive, and taught boys to reason out things and to think for themselves.

He especially thought that this was a capital hobby for those of later life who had retired from business, as stamp collecting gave them something to occupy their mind.

He thought there was much waste in our present scheme of education, as boys and girls when they left school promptly forgot

nearly all they had been taught; if they took up and stuck to a hobby like stamp collecting, their education would be continued.

He understood that the Manchester Junior Philatelic Society had been in existence for only three years, and he thought that the Exhibition reflected great credit upon them, inasmuch as they had been able to get together such a fine exhibition of stamps to place before the public.

He thought that at present stamp collecting was only in its infancy, and that many Juniors of to-day would in a few years be able to see great advances in their science.

He had very great pleasure in declaring the Exhibition to be open.

Major E. B. EVANS said:—

Ladies and Gentlemen,—I have very great pleasure in proposing a most hearty vote of thanks to the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor of Manchester for his kindness in coming here to-day to open this Exhibition, and for all the kind and complimentary things that he has said about Philately in general and Manchester Philately in particular, all of which I need not say I most fully endorse. We have the more reason for thanking him for his presence here because he is, I regret to hear, only now recovering from a long and serious illness, and while expressing our warm thanks to him, I would also express our most sincere hopes that he may very shortly be fully restored to health, and may suffer no permanent ill-effects from all that he has recently gone through.

Manchester seems to me to be singularly fortunate in her choice of chief magistrates from a philatelic point of view, and I doubt not from all other points of view also, but as I am a mere humble philatelist, I would not venture to express an opinion upon Lord Mayors from any other than the philatelic point of view. This is only the second time that I have had the pleasure of visiting the city of Manchester. On each occasion I have come to see a very fine Exhibition of Stamps, and on each occasion the Exhibition has been opened by the Lord Mayor.

His Lordship has confessed that he had a collection of stamps in his earlier days, and I trust that at some future time he may return to our hobby and may become an active and enthusiastic member of one or both of the Manchester Philatelic Societies.

Post Office

H.M. Postmaster-General established a temporary Branch Post Office at the Hulme Town Hall for the three days the Exhibition was open.

To commemorate the first Philatelic Congress ever held in Great Britain a special postmark was granted, and was applied to

all correspondence posted in the pillar boxes placed in the entrance hall or handed over the counter for registration, etc.

All the ordinary business of a sub-office was transacted, including the registration of letters and the issue of Universal Postage Union reply coupons, etc. All and every kind of stamps and postal stationery were on sale.

Office hours: 10.30 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Deliveries were made at the ordinary scheduled times of the district.

Collections.—The letter box was cleaned on

Thursday (Feb. 18) at 4 p.m., 5.30 p.m., 7 p.m., 8 p.m., and 10 p.m.

Friday (Feb. 19) at 12.30 p.m., 1.30 p.m., 2.30 p.m., 4 p.m., 5.30 p.m., 7 p.m., 8 p.m., and 10 p.m.

Saturday (Feb. 20) at 12.30 p.m., 1.30 p.m., 2.30 p.m., 4 p.m., 5.30 p.m., 7 p.m., 8 p.m., and 10 p.m.

Letters were obliterated in view of the public from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Letters posted after 10 p.m. on Saturday, February 20, would not have the Special Exhibition and Congress Postmark.

The Souvenir Cards issued by the Manchester Junior Philatelic Society were not on sale at the Post Office, but were to be had from the Stewards or at the M.J.P.S. Stall.

Dealers' Stalls

A number of stalls at which stamp dealers and publishers could sell their goods were arranged round the great hall. The following firms had stalls:—

1. CHAS. NISSEN & CO.
2. J. RHODES.
3. W. T. WILSON.
4. P. L. PEMBERTON & CO.
5. OSWALD MARSH.
6. THE PHILATELIC WORLD.
7. MANCHESTER JUNIOR PHILATELIC STALL.
8. THE STOLZENBERG PATENT FILE CO.
9. STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.
10. W. S. LINCOLN & CO.
12. DOUGLAS & CO.

Souvenir Post Cards

A very handsome post card was issued by the Committee and sold in large numbers to visitors sending the card to friends through the Special Post Office in the Exhibition.

Essay Competition

A number of essays on Philatelic subjects were submitted to Mr. P. C. Bishop who selected the following as the most meritorious:—

FIRST PRIZE: For "Methodical Stamp Collecting."
John M. McLeish, Tullylumb Terrace, Glasgow
Road, Perth, N.B.

SECOND PRIZE: For "Philatelic Gems of the British Empire."
Robert Chilcott, 11 Preston Grove, Anfield
Liverpool.

PLAOMA: For "Military Postage Stamps of France."
W. Haworth, Chaplain's House, Portland,
Dorset.

HIGHLY COMMENDED:
G. Farmer, Manchester; C. W. Cave, London; H. C. Cave, London; L. H. White, Cambridge; James Hoult, jun., Liverpool.

stamp Competition

The albums in this competition were judged by Mr. W. D. Beckton, who made the following awards:—

FIRST PRIZE:
J. W. Beanland, Leake Vicarage, Thirsk.

SECOND PRIZE:
W. Gosse, 2 Nevern Square, Earl's Court, London, S.W.

DIPLOMA:
W. Atack, 5 Queen's Terrace, Clarence Road, Longsight, Manchester.

EXTRA DIPLOMA (given solely on account of the Philatelic study shown):
Fred H. Haffenden, 26 Palm Street, Slade Lane, Longsight, Manchester.

Miss Ross's Ladies' Orchestra

have a capital selection of high-class music each afternoon and evening, which is much enjoyed by the thousands of visitors.

* * *

The value of stamps shown was estimated between £30,000 and £40,000, and up to the morning of the opening over 22,000 packets had been disposed of, so I think I can safely say that the Exhibition has been a great success. While I am sure that this good result has been attained through the work of the whole of the Executive Committee, yet I think a special meed of praise is due to Mr. I. J. Bernstein, Mr. D. A. Gerry (who owing to the unfortunate illness of the Secretary, Mr. J. R. M. Albrecht, had taken on much of his work), Messrs. J. J. Marlow, J. S. Higgins, jun., who all worked like Trojans.

An interesting Preface to the Official Catalogue was written by Major E. B. Evans, the course of which he states:—

"The pursuit of stamp collecting, or philately as it is now universally called, requires no excuse on the part of its votaries, as is no longer a mere amusement for school-

boys, but an absorbing hobby, almost a science, enjoyed and studied by many thousands of persons, in every rank of society in all civilized countries. It even affords a livelihood to very considerable numbers of people who devote themselves entirely to the purchase and sale of stamps, and the publication of albums, catalogues, magazines, and other forms of Philatelic literature; indeed, it may fairly be said that there is no other 'hobby' in the world which is the object of so much exclusive commerce, or is so abundantly catered for from a literary point of view. . . .

"More recently it has been realized that there was room for a second Society in this city, not as a rival to the first, but working side by side with it upon somewhat different lines, and thus the Manchester Junior Philatelic Society has come into being. This Society—called the 'Junior' as being the younger of the two—aims at catering for collectors, be they young or old, who have not yet arrived at the most advanced stages of Philatelic study, and it is by the Manchester Junior Philatelic Society that this Exhibition has been arranged."

The Philatelic Congress

I shall deal with this important function in a later number of our *Weekly*.

The Exhibits

The following were the chief exhibits. Want of space will permit only a very brief description of each.

BRITISH EMPIRE.

GREAT BRITAIN.

1. LEICESTER A. B. PAINE.—Id., black, 1840, a block of eighteen used on original; 1d., grey-black, 1840, a strip of ten, worn plate, used on original; strip of twelve of the 2d., blue, 1840, no white lines.

2. J. H. TITE.—1840, 1d., black, five blocks of eight, two strips of eight, four strips of six, and one strip of ten, all used.

3. F. A. VERITY.—Fifty-six single and pair penny blacks on original letters, red and black cancellations.

4. J. S. HIGGINS, Jun.—A specialized collection of the stamps issued up to 1900, *all unused*, comprising all the regular issues, and many scarce varieties. This collection also includes essays, proofs, colour trials, and specimen stamps. The plate numbers are all complete. 1840, 1d., black, includes a block of six and strips of four and five; 1840, 2d., blue, strips of three and five; 2d., blue, Large Crown, perf. 14, and Small Crown, perf. 14. The octagonals comprise fourteen copies, including a pair of the 1d. and 1s. There are two copies of the 10s., Maltese Cross, and the £1, Maltese Cross, the £1, watermark three Crowns and three Orbs. The Officials are practically complete, including £1, watermark Crowns, 5s., 10s., and £1, green; also the 1d., Government Parcels, inverted surcharge, etc. The stamps in this well-known collection are all in superb condition.

6. WALTER SCOTT.—This exhibit contains the 1d., black, V.R.; proofs, 1d., red, 2d., blue, 6d., green, postmarked; 6d., lilac, large white letters in corner; 3d., rose, 4d., red, 6d., lilac, 1s., green, small white letters, the last three with hair lines; ½d., 1870, in green, 4d., plate 15, a pair, 8d., plate 1, in brown, perf. On sheet 2. The Cardiff 1d., red, imperf. (plate 116).

7. JAMES N. SUTCLIFFE.—Adhesive stamps of the British Empire, showing the different portraits of the late Queen Victoria, arranged in order of issue.

8. S. C. BUCKLEY.—A specialized collection of the One Penny values from 1840 to the present day, the varieties being fully annotated. The Penny values used in the State Departmental Offices and in the Colonies are also shown. This collection is really an object lesson of what a student's collection should be. It is beautifully and fully written up, and I heard Lord Crawford say on looking at it, "Hello! this seems to be one of my pupils."

9. CHARLES NISSEN.—Essays, proofs, and trial colours of various issues, including complete experimental sheet of One Penny, die 1, constructed in 1840 by Perkins Bacon and Co., with experimental obliterations. Proofs of surface-printing by Perkins Bacon and Co., indenting process, etc.

10. R. DALTON.—English stamps used in Hayti. A complete collection of all known plates.

BRITISH LEVANT.

11. Dr. E. W. FLOYD.—The regular issues are complete, used and unused, and include Constantinople and Beyrouth provisionals, used on pieces. British stamps used in all the different post offices are also shown.

BRITISH STAMPS USED IN GIBRALTAR AND MALTA.

12. R. DALTON.—This collection comprises practically all the known varieties used in Gibraltar and Malta, and includes 2½d., plate 2, bluish paper, used in Gibraltar; 2½d., plate 2, error of lettering, 2s., brown, and 1s., K.D. variety, used in Malta. The 1d., red, is represented by a sheet of each.

BAHAMAS.

14. E. HEGINBOTTOM.—Practically complete, used.

BARBADOS.

15. E. HEGINBOTTOM.—Used collection, including the rare pin-perf. 12½ (1d.), blue, and six halves of the 1878 provisionals.

BECHUANALAND AND PROTECTORATE.

16. J. H. ABBOTT.—A selection in pairs and blocks, including errors such as double surcharges, red and black, "ritish" for "British," and 2d. green surcharge, 1888; also Protectorate complete 1s. to 10s.

BERMUDA.

18. D. S. DARKIN.—Noticeable varieties are 3d., orange, perf. 14, mint; 3d., yellow-buff, perf. 14; used pair of same value perf. 14 by 12½; 3d. on 1d. and on 1s. in fancy capitals; 3d. on 1s. in roman capitals; 1d. on 2d., 3d., and 1s.

BRITISH EAST AFRICA.

19a. J. S. HIGGINS, Jun.—A collection of used and unused, containing the 1890 issue, unus the ½ anna on 2 annas, manuscript surcharge, the 1895 local surcharges, copies are shown used and unused. The issues of 1895 surcharged on Indian stamps include some of the minor varieties. The 1897 issue surcharged on Zanzibar are shown with the various types of charge.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

20. E. HEGINBOTTOM.—A used collection, including 3c. on 3d., CC, 12½.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA AND PAPUA.

21. DR. A. ROBINSON.—Comprising stamps used in this colony during the last ten years singles, pairs, and blocks, mint and used; together with entire mint sheets of most values. This very fine collection, and comprises a number very rare varieties.

BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA.

22a. J. S. HIGGINS, Jun.—A collection composed chiefly of unused. The provisionals 1891 are shown unused. The Bulawayo provisionals include the 1d. on 4s. and the 3d. 5s.

CANADA.

23. MAJOR H. C. FRENCH, R.A.M.C.—A good collection of used and unused, practically complete, with a fine range of shades. In the early issues the 1d. is represented by three mint copies, and the 6d. perf. also by three mint copies. In the 1852-7 issues are a number of superb used copies, including ½c., rose, on *vertically* ribbed paper, and there are two copies of the 10c., black-brown, 1859, on originals. An interesting lot of essays, proofs, and colour trials are shown. This is a superb collection, with stamps in grand condition and very tastefully arranged.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

24. W. H. TARRANT.—A collection showing mint or unused specimens of all the values of De La Rue issues of triangular stamps.

Rouletted, three specimens; "woodblock" include the retouched corner; two brick-red, crimson, six pale blue, and three dark blue. Two of the blue are on original letters, one showing the very early postmark "Port Elizabeth Mar. 5, 61"; and the other (a fine dark blue) the late postmark "Nov. 5, 61."

A letter sheet is also shown with a 6d. s. lilac, and half a 4d., blue, to cover postage 8s.

The rectangular issues are nearly complete mint specimens.

CAYMAN ISLANDS.

25. A. LEON ADUTT.—Contains single and pairs of the issues of 1900, 1901-2, 1903 complete, and provisionals, the 2½d. on 4d. with double surcharge, and mint strip of three 4d., all inverted surcharges. Postally used copies including ½d. on 1d., ½d. on 5s., 1d. on 5s.

26. C. H. G. SPRANKLING.—A collection including King's Heads, single and multiple (2d. on 2s., 1d. on 2s., 2½d. on 4d., 1d. on 4d.)

27. G. A. H. GODFREY.—A collection of used and unused.

CEYLON.

28. BARON A. DE WORMS.—This fine exhibit comprises the first four issues unused, and includes imperf. 4d., 8d., 9d., two of each; 1s., 2s., four of each. Perf. pair of 4d.; dull rose; 6d., 8d., brown, 9d., bistro, 10d., 9d., lilac, three specimens; CC, 2d., yellow-green, three; 10d., vermilion, five; besides the following in blocks of four: imperf. 4d., 1d., 2d., 10d.; perf. 1d., 2d., 4d., rose-red, 5d., 8d., yellow-brown, 9d., deep brown, 1s., and 2s. No watermark, 1d., 5d., 6d., and 1s.; CC, 6d., perf. 13 (1863). There are also shown several used pairs, among which are 4d., 1s. 9d., and 2s., imperforate. This is only a selection of the "gems" from this superb and well-known collection.

29. O. K. TRECHMANN.—In this exhibit, with few exceptions, the whole of the "cents" issues are well represented, used and unused, including most of the varieties in the surcharges, viz. inverted, double, and double with one inverted. I think that some of the surcharges, such as 4 c. on 5 c., lilac-rose, and 5 c. on 8 c., yellow, are rather doubtful in character.

CYPRUS.

30. J. C. NORTH.—The principal stamps of note in this collection are British stamps used in the island prior to 1880; ½d., plate 19, used and unused; vertical pair of 1d., top stamp not surcharged; all 1d. plate numbers, including mint strip of three, plate 174; corner blocks of plate numbers, one showing double surcharge; 6d., a complete pair; 30 paras on 1d., inverted surcharges, plates 216, 220, also error "80" for "30" paras. CC issues complete, used and unused, including ½ and 4 piastres imperf. The rare ½ on half piastre (S.G. No. 22), mint. CA, the rare ½ piastre in shade of CC, two copies.

DOMINICA.

31. J. STELFOX GEE.—Practically complete, used and unused, showing two 1d. and a "half of 1d." of first issue, used as 2½d. Surcharged bisected stamps of 1882-3 shown in variety, also strips of nine on three original envelopes; 1d. of 1887 bisected, used; also entires.

32. E. HEGINBOTTOM.—Used collection, including two copies of the 1s., CA; the rare "One Penny" on 6d., green, on part of original.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

33. J. STELFOX GEE.—Practically all catalogue varieties, used and unused, with shades; proof of 6d. in blue; half of 1d. with and without surcharge, used, on original envelopes.

34. W. H. LAWSON.—Complete collection: 1884, 1d. and 4d., with inverted watermark; 1891, provisional on half of current (1891) 1d.

GAMBIA.

35. W. DORNING BECKTON.—A complete specialized collection of the stamps of this colony up to the year 1890, including a large number of entire sheets. This is a really beautiful collection, the sheets of watermarks shown in different positions being very interesting.

36. P. V. SANSCOME.—A collection of Queen's and King's Heads, used and unused.

GIBRALTAR.

37. G. FRED H. GIBSON.—All values of the Queen's Head issues in blocks of four and upwards, unused, and in blocks, pairs, and single

specimens, used. In fourth issue, the 10 centimos, carmine, with value omitted, with value misplaced, also cut diagonally and used as 5 centimos.

38. ALFRED HOLT, Jun.—A complete collection in mint condition, most values being represented by blocks of four or six, and many with plate numbers. Includes 10 c., red, value omitted; complete pane of 25 c. on 2d., showing short "i" and broken "n." Block of sixty of 5 c. on ½d., showing arrangement of the types of figure "5." Two essays of 2d. value, King Edward VII type.

MOROCCO AGENCIES.

39. DR. E. W. FLOYD.—The first page consists of Gibraltar stamps used in Morocco Post Offices before the issue of special stamps.

GOLD COAST.

40. J. J. DARLOW.—A collection showing nearly every variety, unused and used, with two exceptions. The 1875 issue and the 1d., blue, CA, are all in mint condition. The 1884-9 issues are arranged according to plate numbers.

41. D. S. DARKIN.—An almost complete collection, with fine used copies of first issue.

grenada.

42. E. HEGINBOTTOM.—A representative used collection, including the error "PENCF," etc.; 1883 provisionals in unsevered pairs, also with inverted surcharge, etc.; double surcharge on provisional 1d. of 1886; the upright "d" variety on the 4d. on 2s. provisional of 1888.

HONG KONG.

43. T. H. HINTON.—Practically complete, except a few errors, etc. A few forgeries are shown for comparison, also various issues bearing postmarks of Chinese cities and Treaty ports, including Wei-Hai-Wei.

INDIAN NATIVE STATES.

44. A. J. SÉFI.—A good general collection of all the States, from Alwar to Wadhwan. Of these by far the best is Jammu and Kashmir, which is specialized. Many sheets of stamps are included.

INDIA.

45. J. G. HORNER.—Hyderabad.—A small collection, consisting chiefly of used copies. The first stamp is shown imperf. horizontally, and the 3 annas imperf. all round.

JAMAICA.

46. J. STELFOX GEE.—A practically complete collection, used and unused, with variety of shades, inverted watermarks, etc. Half of 1d., blue, used as halfpenny; on original 4d., surcharged "TWO PENCE HALF-PENNY," shown with the normal type, used and unused; "PENN" and "PFNN" unused, *se tenant*; "PFNN" used, and double surcharge, both used and unused. Postal Fiscals, Officials, and strip of six Telegraph stamps, 3d. value, used postally, on original cover.

LAGOS.

47. O. K. TRECHMANN.—A small collection, showing fine used copies, 2s. 6d., 5s., and 10s., 1884-6 issue. Also the set of King's Heads, single CA, complete unused.

48. D. S. DARKIN.—Dated copies of first three issues. From 1887 to date complete in mint state (except 10s., King, single CA).

MALTA.

49. MRS. E. FIELD.—Complete unused, including $\frac{1}{2}$ d., buff, on blue paper; superb block of four $\frac{1}{2}$ d., golden yellow, mint; 4d., brown, pair, imperf.; sheet of 1d., blue, showing error "PNNEY."

50. K. H. KRICORISSIAN.—A representative collection, used and unused, including a unique block of six $\frac{1}{2}$ d., orange, 1861, mint; a pair of the 4d., imperf., 1885, mint; and a series of colour trials.

MONTSERRAT.

52. J. J. DARLOW.—A representative collection comprising both unused and used specimens, practically complete up to date. The half of the 1d., CC, 14, used as $\frac{1}{2}$ d. on original cover is worthy of notice.

NEVIS.

53. W. W. SANDERSON.—This exhibit has the 1861 issue complete on both blued and greyish paper, in most cases in unused and used condition; 1867 issue complete in unused and used state, including unsevered sheet of 1d. value; 1878 complete, with sheets of the 1d. and 1s., perf. 15, and 1d., perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$; 1879 to 1882 complete, with bisected specimens, and the surcharges of 1883.

NEW ZEALAND.

54. O. K. TRECHMANN.—A good representative collection of the first two types of this colony, most of the specimens in fine condition.

55. W. W. MUNN.—A collection of the pictorial issues, London and colonial printings, singles and blocks, showing shades, varieties of paper, watermarks, and perforations.

NIGER COAST PROTECTORATE.

56. J. S. HIGGINS, Jun.—A complete collection of the regular issues of this colony. Contains many of the rare provisionals in the various coloured surcharges.

NORTH BORNEO.

57. MRS. E. FIELD.—A collection of unused.

ORANGE FREE STATE.

61. JAMES H. ABBOTT.—Selection in blocks and sheets. In the 1877 issue, 4d. on 6d., there are a block of four and a strip of three, and one with surcharge inverted. 1881, 1d. on 5s., a complete pane; 1d. on 5s., complete sheet; 3d. on 4d., a partly reconstructed pane, also pairs and blocks. 1888, complete pane of 2d. on 3d., 1d. on 3d., many varieties, including the Roman "I."

QUEENSLAND.

64. O. K. TRECHMANN.—A fairly complete and interesting collection of the stamps of this colony in fine condition.

ST. CHRISTOPHER.

65. J. J. DARLOW.—A specialized collection of single specimens, both mint and used, together with a few pairs and blocks. It begins with a copy of the British 6d., no letters, postmarked "A12," the St. Christopher cancellation. The provisionals are well represented and described. The 1d. of Antigua is shown on entire original envelope postmarked "A12," "St. Kitts, Mr. 27, 90." Specimens of the Leeward Islands issue are shown used in St. Kitts. Special attention is drawn to the last page containing a copy of the bogus issue in the design of the early

St. Lucias, which for many years was a puzzle to both collectors and dealers.

66. E. HEGINBOTTOM.—Collection of used, including the provisional 1d. on $\frac{1}{2}$ d., blue, of 1888, without any obliterating bar through original value.

ST. HELENA.

67. O. K. TRECHMANN.—A used collection of this colony.

ST. LUCIA.

68. J. J. DARLOW.—A collection of single specimens, both used and unused, with a few pairs and blocks of four. It commences with a copy of the British 6d., no letters, postmarked "A11," the St. Lucia cancellation. The unissued provisionals are included.

ST. VINCENT.

69. E. HEGINBOTTOM.—Practically complete in used state, including the 1d., no watermark perf. intermediate "A1," "A2," and the same 1d., no watermark, with compound perfs. Also all the rare early provisionals, with the 5s., Sta. watermark.

SARAWAK.

70. HUMPHREY BENNETT.—A collection mostly unused, containing a copy of the 3 cents 1869 issue, engraved, on surface-coloured paper used; also colour trials of the 1895 issue, and two die proofs of the 2 cents of 1895 issue; also trials of a pence issue, surcharged on the colour trials of 1895 issue; four copies of the 2 cents or 12 cents 1899 issue, with the inverted surcharge showing the types in the words of value, as well as various faulty surcharges.

This is a beautiful collection, highly specialized and well studied and worked out.

SEYCHELLES.

71. J. W. HEATH.—The stamps of this colony are shown practically complete in both used and unused condition.

72. VINCENT SMITH.—Medium specialized collection of these islands from 1890 to present time, used and mint, showing types, surcharges etc.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

73. W. W. MUNN.—A collection of used and unused, showing a fine range of shades from the Perkins Bacon plates. London print, 1d., pair colonial prints, imperf., 1d., 6d., 1s.; roulette many specimens of each value; the various perforations, single and compound, are also shown. In this exhibit is included a block of twenty-one of the 1s. orange, imperf., used.

A very nice collection, well studied and arranged.

SUDAN.

75. B. W. H. POOLE.—This colony is shown practically complete, including the five types and the most noticeable varieties of the first issue in singles and blocks. There is a copy of the 1 mil with inverted surcharge, and the 1 mil. and 3 mils. without dot in the first native character are shown.

76. W. WAITE SANDERSON.—The first three issues are shown complete, mint and used, mostly in blocks and strips, including inverted surcharge. Postage Dues in blocks and strips of six, "O.S.G.S.," with numerous varieties, and the "Army Officials" and "Army Service" are well

presented, with the various varieties of overprint.

TOBAGO.

77. W. WAITE SANDERSON.—A used and unused collection fairly complete, including a number of varieties of surcharge.

TONGA.

78. J. H. ABBOTT.—The selection shown contains first issue, a number of the surcharged issues, and a portion of the last issue, including the error 7½d. with inverted head, and the error of 1889" for 1899 on the 1d.

VIRGIN ISLANDS.

79. E. HEGINBOTTOM.—A used collection, including the 6d. perf. 15 of 1867, 1868, and the 1d. CA, buff, with the three errors of issue of 899 on entire.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

80. W. W. MUNN.—A collection of this colony, used and unused, in numerous shades, contains in the first issue a block of six, 4 pence blue, and blocks of six, and twelve of the one shilling brown, unused; also Swan watermark, 2d., 4d., 6d., and pair of 1s., imperf., unused; and mint pairs and blocks of four of later issues.

82. DR. E. W. FLOYD.—A collection of used and unused showing all values up to the £1 894 issue. Many pairs and blocks, and control letters are included.

83. J. H. ABBOTT.—Practically complete, unused and used, in blocks and pairs, including fatal revenue stamps postally used, 1s. and £5.

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

I regret that this section is so badly represented; such important groups as Germany and her States, Russia and Finland, Spain and Portugal, the whole of South America, etc. etc., are not represented. I think that Lancashire collectors would be wise to take up some of the countries, or before long they will find them almost impossible to get in at all complete condition.

BELGIUM.

84. F. E. WILSON.—A very representative collection of this country, unused. 1849, six 10 c., three and a pair 20 c.; 1850, 10, 20, and 40 c., mk. LL framed; the first two issues are also known used, and include strip of ten 20 c. and a 50 c. with double corner figures. The following are all unused:—1851, wmk. LL without name, and include three 40 c.; 1861, no wmk., include blocks and strips of 1 c., five 40 c.; 1863-65, the three sets of perfs. in many shades, and blocks of all values.

BRAZIL.

85. W. H. LAWSON.—Complete collection, with exception of a few relatively unimportant amps. 1843, strip of three 60's. 1844, 180, 200, 600, and pairs and blocks of lower values. Block of twelve of the 10 specially interesting, the two lower corner stamps showing double impression of the die.

BULGARIA AND EASTERN ROUMELIA.

86. J. H. ABBOTT.—*Bulgaria*: First issues blocks and pairs unused; also the error of

colour 5 st., carmine, is shown on original letter. *South Bulgaria*: Early issues in blocks and pairs, with many varieties of surcharge. *Eastern Roumelia*: First issue in blocks and pairs, unused.

CHINA.

87. J. G. HORNER.—The first issue has been divided into the three settings; the second into two lots, one perforated 12½ by the old machine, and the other 11¾ by a new machine. The broken die of this issue is shown used and unused, and surcharged 1 cent. Most of the surcharges are represented, including the 2 c. double impression and ½ c. of second setting in orange-yellow.

COSTA RICA.

88. J. R. M. ALBRECHT.—A highly specialized collection, including proofs, colour trials, and errors of perforation. The ½ real (imperforate) of the first issue. The error "CORREOS" without the "C" on the 1889. 5 c. fiscal. A representative display of the issues for official use and also the issues for the Province of Guanacaste; the scarce vertical overprints on the 1 c. and 2 c. fiscals. Among the Officials are pairs of the S.G. types O 2 and O 3 "se tenant." The collection contains the following unrecorded varieties:—1887, 5 c. overprinted "Official," S.G. type O 1. Official 1887 10 c. with figure "1" in error for the first "I." 1889, 10 c., blue, overprinted "CORREOS."

Egypt.

89. H. HOWELL JONES.—A fairly representative collection of Egyptian stamps, including Postage Dues and Officials, practically all being unused. The collection includes a few essays and proofs, and also shows some forgeries for comparison with the genuine stamps.

FRANCE.

91. FRANZ REICHENHEIM.—Representative show of all the issues. First issue complete, mostly in unused pairs and blocks of four, containing three unused specimens and a used pair of 1 fr., orange-red, one pair "Vervelle," three unused copies of 1 fr., brick-red, one stamp showing "Ceres" with the beard, three unused single copies and a block of four 15 c., green, "tête-bêche" pairs of 1 fr., carmine, of 25 c., blue (3), of 10 c., bistre. Reprints of 40 c., orange, in a block of four, containing the two stamps with "wider" figure "4," and of 25 c. on 25 c., blue, etc. The Circular of the P.M.G. of December 1, 1849, referring to the change of colour of the 1 fr. from red-orange to carmine, is also exhibited. The latter issues are well represented by a fine selection from this well-known and superb collection.

92. W. GRUNEWALD.—This exhibit is only a portion of a highly specialized collection of this country, and illustrates the issues of the Republic from 1870 to 1875. In the Bordeaux issue are shown two single copies of the 20 c., blue, first type. The principal stamps in addition to singles, pairs and blocks, are the following:—10 c., bistre, strip of ten stamps from the bottom of the sheet, showing position of "tête-bêche," also two "tête-bêche" pairs unused and one pair used. 20 c., blue, five "tête-bêche" unused and one used; 15 c., bistre, one "tête-bêche" unused and one used; 25 c., blue, two "tête-bêche"

unused and one used; 10 c., bistre on rose, two "tête-bêche" unused and two used; and one unused pair of to by 15 bistre on rose, "se tenant."

93. W. H. EARL.—This collection contains the following:—*Adhesives*: 1849 to 1908, including two sets unused, by Mons. E. Lorin, for use during the Commune, 1871. *Entires*: Balloon Post letters, envelopes prepaid by combined French and German stamps, from the French provinces occupied by the German troops, 1871; also a number of post cards.

93a. H. L. HAYMAN.—A very rare envelope, addressed to "Prince Louis Napoleon, President de la Rep. Française," posted at "Clairvaux-s-Aube, 3 Mar., 1852," franked with the 1 franc Ceres type in orange-vermilion.

HAYTI.

97. J. H. M. SAVAGE.—A general and almost complete collection. This exhibit is strong in inverted and double surcharges, and also imperforate varieties of the perforated issues.

HOLLAND.

98. T. B. WIDDOWSON.—The collection starts with the first issue of 1852, and shows the various early postmarks and shades of the various printings. All types and perforations of the 1869-71 issue are shown with diagrams. The "Coat-of-Arms" issue of 1869-71, with all their perforations.

JAPAN.

99. W. DORNING BECKTON.—A very highly specialized collection of this artistic country. The first issue is shown in entire sheets. The stamps being separately engraved, differ one from another on the sheet. Specimens from the second and scarce plate of this issue are included in this exhibit. The second issue is displayed upon similar lines, including some fine shades. The collection includes in the subsequent issues many interesting entire sheets.

MODENA.

100. W. DORNING BECKTON.—The stamps of the ancient Duchy of Modena are shown practically complete in their several printings, and include some sixty errors and abnormal varieties, some of which are of considerable rarity; to wit, the Provisional Government issue of 1859, 40 c., with inverted figure before "CENT.", unused, of which only one other specimen is known, and that is used. The proofs and essays in the collection, and the manner in which the stamps are written up, add materially to the philatelic interest of the exhibit.

ROUMANIA.

101. C. H. COOTE.—This exhibit is only a portion of a highly specialized collection of this country. 1862, 3, 6, and 30 parale on laid paper, handstruck, a pair of the 30 parale being tête-bêche. 1863, complete sheet of each of the three values, machine printed. 1863, specimens of the above three values, forgeries. 1865, corner portion of a sheet of the 20 parale, red, showing the missing clichés. 1867, corner portion of a sheet of the 2 parale, black on yellow, showing the missing clichés, and also two specimens of this value showing damaged clichés. 1867, corner portion of a sheet of 5 parale,

black on blue, showing missing clichés. 1867, corner portion of a sheet of 20 parale, pale rose showing missing clichés. 1868, corner portion of a sheet of 2 bani, orange, showing missing clichés. 1868, two specimens of the "FOSTA" error. 1870, block of twenty-three, 3 bani violet, showing missing clichés. This is a real philatelic collection, thoroughly studied, well arranged and written, and I consider this work Mr. Coote's an object lesson showing us what a real student can do with a fine country.

RUSSIA.

101a. G. B. DUERST.—A comprehensive collection of the adhesive stamps, used and unused, of this country, containing all but the rare varieties, showing all the different watermarks.

SERVIA.

102. J. H. ABBOTT.—The first issues of this country in pairs and blocks, and a complete sheet of 50 paras, perf. 9½, of the 1869 issue.

SIAM.

103. ALFRED HOLT, Jun.—A practically complete collection. Includes nearly all varieties double and inverted surcharges; also surcharge on back and front of stamps; also some sheets and large blocks showing varieties and different spacing of surcharges, with a few essays.

SICILY.

104. J. TAYLOR.—A specialized collection of the interesting stamps of this country, arranged according to the different plates. Each plate well represented by a variety of shades, both used and unused.

The stamps of the 1 gr. Pl. III.; 2 gr. Pl. I., II., III.; 5 gr. Pl. I. (first and second printings), and also Pl. II. have been plated. Number of the rare retouches are shown:— $\frac{1}{2}$ g Pl. I. (two copies); 2 gr. Pl. I. (five copies), Pl. II. (one copy); 5 gr. Pl. I. (two copies), Pl. I. (one copy); 10 gr. (three copies); and also a very rare retouch of the 20 gr. No. 72 (slate black—the rarest shade used). Specimens also shown on the original envelopes, together with a number of forgeries.

This is another first-rate collection, well studied and arranged, and it contains some really beautiful things in the retouches.

CONFEDERATE STATES.

107. NATHAN HAYWOOD.—A collection of the interesting stamps, all shown used on the original letter sheets and envelopes. The issues are shown in many shades, and include the 1863 issue with rectangular frames, 20 cent, green, of 1863 bisected and used as a 10 cent, and several of the perforated issue, etc. etc.

URUGUAY.

109. JOSEPH BROOKS.—A representative collection of this country, used and unused.

GREAT BRITAIN.

110. J. R. M. ALBRECHT.—A specialized collection of Mulreadys, containing upwards of 300 specimens, including complete sheets of the first varieties; proofs on India paper, before and after the insertion of value, and copies showing early postmarks.

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Manchester Philatelic Congress

Report of Proceedings on Thursday, February 18th, and Friday, 19th, 1909

To our Readers

Gibbons Stamp Weekly presents an unusual appearance this week, but in view of the interest taken in the proceedings of the Philatelic Congress held at Manchester on the 18th, 19th, and 20th February last we have decided to publish a verbatim report. The space needed prevents the inclusion of any of the regular features of the paper, but some of these will be resumed next week. Even now we are only able to publish the particulars of the first two days' proceedings. The report of the third day's doings, and also a notice of the dinner and other features of the Exhibition, will be given in next week's number.—Ed. G.S.W.

MR. R. I. J. BERNSTEIN (Manchester Junior Philatelic Society): Gentlemen,—Before the Congress actually arts I would like, on behalf of the Manchester Junior Philatelic Society, to welcome delegates here assembled from all parts the kingdom. The holding of a Congress a subject which has been in the air for very many years, but somehow or other it ever seemed to have matured; there has ways been something or other to stop it. here have been various causes. Sometimes it has been that Societies could not agree; one Society was older than another, the Society had more members than the other, and somehow or other a Congress never came to pass. We here in Manchester, the Manchester Junior Society, are in the unique position of being the youngest and the most unimportant Society in England, and I presume it is from that cause that we have been able to get everybody to agree to come to a Conference. To use a paradox, gentlemen, we are proud of being so humble. With these few remarks, and thanking you one and all for your support and for your attendance here, and for honouring us by attending our Congress, I will ask Mr. Beckton to take the chair and to open the proceedings. Mr. W. Dornung Beckton then took the chair.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen,—I have been asked to take the chair to-day. I do so with a good deal of trepidation, because I recognize that this is a beginning. Every big concern must have a beginning; they eventually become great, but it very often happens that the beginning is small in re-

gard to the ultimate objects that are finally achieved.

In looking for a text I have been consulting philatelic literature—I think we philatelists are all very proud of our literature—and in turning over the pages of some old volumes I came across a note referring to the *Detroit Philatelist* some twenty years ago. That was a very unimportant paper, which was issued in the United States, and it had a run of about two or three years. I was struck by this—that in a review which appeared in one of the English periodicals in 1892 comment was made in regard to a suggestion which had been made about holding a Philatelic Congress. It says here:—

“Here is Mr. J. Bernstein, jun., in the latest issue of the *Detroit Philatelist*, suggesting a universal conference of philatelists, perhaps as wild a scheme as one can imagine. ‘Why,’ he asks, ‘should we not, and why can we not come to some decision as to the differences of General Collecting and Specialization, Science and Hobby, Amalgamation and Anti-amalgamation, Genuine and Counterfeit, etc. etc., occupying valuable space, trouble, and controversy?’”

Then it says:—

“Perhaps when this gentleman has turned out a few more screeds like this he will let us have a calm, business-like statement as to how it is to be done. In condemning Mr. Bernstein’s article as so much empty, senseless twaddle, we do not condemn the excellent paper in which he writes, but we think the editor of the *Detroit Philatelist*, himself a level-headed authority on matters philatelic, might reserve his pages to something of a more useful philatelic nature.”

Now that was the comment that was made in the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* in

1892. It is rather curious that we find that a gentleman more or less identified with the getting together of this particular Conference bears the same name as the gentleman who wrote the article in the *Detroit Philatelist* some seventeen years ago. There is also a very curious coincidence. I find the first Conference which was held in the United States was attended by a number of well-known philatelists, and there again one of the names struck me as peculiarly well-known to me. That was a Mr Albrecht. It was not the Mr. Albrecht of Manchester, who is one of the Juniors, and is a very ardent philatelist, and who will, no doubt, as years go by, come to be looked up to, but it was a celebrated collector in the United States.

I understand that Mr. Bernstein referred gently to the difficulty of this Congress having a commencement; and I only beg to issue this word of warning, that I think it has been acceded to from the fact that it emanated from a Society which is, without being in any way offensive, of mushroom growth, and therefore no little differences, no question of precedence or anything of that kind, will be easily objected. Now the ice has been broken I am sure that a Congress of this kind will be a very great advantage to all philatelists. I am quite certain about this, that the ice having once been broken, if this Congress is made an annual affair we shall find well-known Societies whose names are respected throughout by all philatelists far and near congregating from year to year, and it will have some lasting and good effect.

Now you have not come here to-day to hear me talk, and I do not desire to keep you any longer. I understand that all the Societies are represented and have sent delegates, and it is exceedingly gratifying that that is the case. I understand that the first subject for discussion to-day is the question of the formation of a National Society. Mr. Bishop has very kindly consented to open the discussion on that subject. It is a subject which I am sure will interest you, one that calls for your careful consideration. There is what I may call an offshoot of that suggestion, a proposal with regard to the formation not so much of a National Society but of a Club; and although the one thing is quite distinct from the other, it might, with your sanction, be possible to eliminate from the best features of those two ideas something which will be put upon a workable basis.

I will now ask Mr. Bishop to open the discussion with regard to the National Society.

MR. I. J. BERNSTEIN: Before Mr. Bishop starts his paper I should like to disown any connection with the gentleman Mr. Beckton referred to. I was not the Mr. Bernstein, junior, who wrote the letter.

MR. PERCY C. BISHOP: Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—Two proposals have been agitated and advocated in the philatelic press for many years past. One proposed to inaugurate an Annual Congress of Philatelists, which, of course, is now an accomplished fact; the other was a plan to form a National Association of the Philatelist of the United Kingdom, either by a federal union of the existing Philatelic Societies or forming an entirely new Society on a popular and national basis. This dual journalistic crusade has been of an intermittent character; it has waxed and waned in direct relation to the enthusiasm or the apathy of the philatelic public. Whenever an editor of a stamp journal has been so happy as to receive a letter from a subscriber supporting his article or his paragraph on the subject, he has thought it good enough to continue the agitation for another number or so.

To induce stamp collectors to give their whole-hearted support to any new project is a long and rather disheartening job. An average philatelist being a busy man, having as a rule a very large correspondence to attend to, is not easily moved to enthusiasm for any new thing involving the slightest trouble. About a year ago, when my correspondents of my own journal, *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, were war—no, perhaps I had better say *tepidly* supporting the proposal for an Annual Philatelic Congress, I had a letter from a German, one whose prophecies very often "came off," warning me that the proposals might probably never be adopted. "A Congress has been suggested so many times in the papers," he said, "but it will never happen. These journalistic proposals are very seldom adopted."

That was a very chilling sort of letter, I think its immediate effect was to cause me to shut down on the Congress idea for a time. But the letters which had been published were not entirely without effect. I am glad to think they had some effect on certain busy brains in Manchester. Mr. Berns has told me that the suggestions then made were to some extent responsible for the proposal to hold a Philatelic Congress as a sort of annexe to the Manchester Postage Stamp Exhibition. The idea steadily grew in importance as public appreciation manifested itself, and at the present moment it is quite a question which is the more important—the more notable function, the Exhibition or the Congress. The great thing is that the Philatelic Congress is an accomplished fact, and one needs only to glance around this room and to take note of the delegations attending on behalf of practically every Philatelic Society in the United Kingdom to see that it has been inaugurated under the most favourable and promising auspices.

Thus one of the two journalistic propo-

f which I have spoken has come to a happy fruition. I think this may be taken as a happy omen, pointing to a possibility that the suggestion for the formation of a National Society may also commend itself to a large majority of the philatelists of Great Britain and Ireland. There is, of course, the larger dream of an Imperial Philatelic Federation, linking up Philatelic Societies and their members throughout the length and breadth of the British Empire; but for the present it would content us to apply the proposal to the United Kingdom.

Alternative suggestions have been made—the first for a British Philatelic Society, founded somewhat on the model of the American Philatelic Association, lately renamed the American Philatelic Society; the other for a federation of Societies already in existence. I must at once declare my own personal preference for the formation of an entirely new and independent Society, perhaps embodying certain of the essentials of federation, but nevertheless an entirely new society. I admit that the general principle of federation is excellent, but the more I think of it the more I wonder what species of Admirable Crichton you are going to find to work out the details of the thing, to overcome the many obstacles that will present themselves, and to harmonize conflicting interests and ideas. It is true that federation has been successfully achieved on the continent, but Continental Societies are not British Societies. In Germany, France, Switzerland, Italy, there is usually a closer resemblance between one Society and another, not only in philatelic status, but in constitution, subscription, and general procedure. There is a far wider differentiation, specially in the matter of annual dues, and I cannot see how any scheme of federation could be devised which would be readily and smoothly workable, and at the same time equitable to all the interests involved. Therefore I must leave to others the task of laborating proposals for the federating of existing Philatelic Societies, and will now venture to submit to you the views I have formed as to why, and also *how*, a National British Philatelic Association should be formed.

In the American Philatelic Society we have a working model of the purely National Association as distinct from a union of various local Societies. The American Society has always been numerically strong; its annual convention has always been the great event of the year in the Philately of the United States. This year the American Philatelic Society is stronger in numbers and perhaps also in influence and usefulness than at any previous time in its history.

American philatelists owe much to their National Society; I think it would not be long before we in Great Britain owed much

to any National Society here established. At the same time there is nothing that the American Philatelic Society has accomplished which could not be accomplished here. In point of membership I believe that we should not only equal, but within a very few years largely exceed the present splendid total of membership of the American Society.

In proceeding to discuss various points of detail I shall take leave to be very brief, as I am hoping that the suggestions I am about to offer will provide the groundwork for a useful and helpful debate.

First, as to the constitution and government of the proposed Society.

It is in my mind a *sine qua non* that membership should be open to every philatelist of good repute, whether a collector, a dealer, or a speculator. There should be a large General Council of the Society elected from the committees of the various Philatelic Societies, but for general executive purposes a reasonable quorum would suffice. It might be found possible, and even desirable, to form branch Societies in important centres, provided, of course, that these branches always maintained a fitting attitude of respect towards the parent Society. The Society must appoint an official journal from which it could exact a prompt and punctual service, and also the provision of a certain prescribed space in every issue for the reporting of the Society's proceedings and its announcements as to new members elected, resignations, and so forth. This matter of the Society's official journal is one of primary importance in relation to the question of the annual subscription.

What annual subscription would it be possible to impose compatible with the popular and national character of the Society? This is really the crux of the whole problem. The American Society has, I believe, an annual due of one dollar, say four shillings, which includes a free subscription to a weekly philatelic journal. In this country we could perhaps give the same value for the same money, but it would be a tight squeeze, and after the official journal had been settled for, there would be a very slim balance remaining for general administrative expenses. If only we enjoyed in this country the great postal advantages conceded to journalists in the United States, the formation of our National Philatelic Society would be a very much easier thing. Americans regard their Press, at least their newspaper Press, as a pretty cheap sort of thing, and that, possibly, is the reason why Uncle Sam lets it pass very cheaply through the mails. Here there is a rather higher appreciation of the newspaper man and his work, and the Postmaster-General shows his sense of it by making us pay the highest rates of postage he possibly can. It costs a halfpenny to post a copy of

it would be a convenient way to deal with the two subjects together.

MR. CASTLE: Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—I intervene at this early stage of the proceedings with some reluctance, because I would much rather have heard an expression of opinion from the younger members present, as I take it one of the great features of this very laudable Exhibition and Congress has been to invite co-operation, and, I may say, the development of Philately, from the junior members. I may express the opinion of many of us in saying that they have taken very able and successful steps to attain that end. I am sure that we feel it is very greatly to their credit that they have been able to inaugurate a Philatelic Congress. It is like many things which have been derided. Once the ball is opened there is a chance of the thing going on to success. I can only say I think it is a very excellent thing to have done, and that I believe although, as often happens in these Congresses and has happened in our own Parliament, there is a good deal of talking which does not seem at the minute to lead to practical results, still I think the meeting of a number of people interested in stamp collecting to discuss these things must do good. I think in the long run we shall find that there will be material aids to philatelic advancement through the holding of annual Congresses. Personally speaking, I sincerely hope that this example so boldly inaugurated in Manchester may be followed in future years, and that we shall see every year a successful Congress. [Hear, hear, and applause.] Of course it is very difficult. We all know in any enterprise, and especially those connected with Philately, the initial steps are always very difficult. I am quite sure those who inaugurated this Congress will agree with me that they have found it extremely difficult to create their own precedents, if I may use the phrase, to start a Congress and find material for discussion that shall satisfy every one. I am quite sure that any of you will agree with me that in the initiation of an enterprise like this we must of necessity to a certain extent beat the air; with the number of members assembled here, delegates of various Societies, each having his own opinion or the opinion of his Society behind him, it will be exceedingly difficult to find a topic on which we shall all be agreed so far as to make a practical outcome of that particular point under discussion. But at the same time I venture to think in the mere fact of discussion we shall do good. We shall clear the air. Even if a proposal is brought forward which does not bear the practical light of hard common sense, the mere discussion of that will do good, because, as mentioned by the previous speaker, these things are often raised by people who are not acquainted

with the difficulties of the subject, and if the subject is discussed here and shown to be impracticable, that discussion will have had a useful effect upon Philately.

Those remarks to a certain extent apply to the very difficult and very thorny subject which has been raised by Mr. Bishop. I hope I shall not be considered presumptuous if I say I should like to congratulate him very heartily upon being the first to figure at this Congress, and for having so ably and so lucidly explained the objects. [Hear, hear, and applause.] At the same time I cannot help thinking that it is an extremely difficult proposition to have brought forward, and as we are here to hear all sides of the question I think it is just as well I point out to him and those who favour his proposal one or two of the difficulties in this way. I think it is one of those ideas which are admirable in themselves and make a splendid reading in the philatelic journals, but my experience as editor has been that those subjects which are most glibly written about in a paper are very often some of the most difficult to reduce to the solid facts of everyday life. Admirable as are Mr. Bishop's ideas on the subject of uniting the philatelic brotherhood, I am afraid that they will find it extremely difficult to put them into practice in this country. Mr. Bishop has very rightly called your attention to the very large and important Societies in America and in Germany. He has also, on the other hand, emphasized this point. When he spoke of the philatelic literature which is the one main evidence of its success in different countries, he did not specifically mention this country, but I am no doubt that Great Britain has always held its head as high as any other country, if not higher, with regard to its activity in philatelic literature. [Hear, hear.] When I come to consider the philatelic literature I may say you will find it is very largely a product of Philatelic Societies. Your philatelic writer is not born to it. He grows up with his philatelic education, and there is no place where he learns so quickly and easily as among his comrades in Philatelic Societies. Therefore, I cannot help thinking that the argument used as regards the numerical success of either the American Society or the German Society is not convincing as against the existence in this country of very numerous Societies, each of which does active and excellent work in its own way, and the large majority of which produce excellent philatelists, and in aggregate produce, in my opinion, a better result than those countries where the dominant feature is a large Society composed of a great number of members, independent of philatelic activity. I should say the American Philatelic Association no doubt fulfills a very useful work, but the physical conditions

merica and the enormous area of the country make the idea altogether different from what it should be in a relatively small country like our own. After all, the main point we have to consider is, what is the best thing for Philately, and there is no doubt philatelic activity, the flow of philatelic literature, and the formation of active societies is one of the most important points. I do not think we find that that has been the outcome of these very big Associations like the American Association or the one in Germany. I am speaking on this point because Mr. Bishop mentioned these as existing Societies of which the success is undoubted. So it is in point of fact as regards numbers; each of them is far larger than any Society in this country; but I do maintain that neither of those Societies as ever produced anything like the proportion of the real philatelic work which has been done by the Philatelic Societies of this country. [Hear, hear.] If you are going to have one big Society like that, what is to be the position of all the other Societies? Are they going to be overwhelmed? Are they going to lose their separate existence, or are they merely to be component parts of a big Society? You have seen even here—I do not know whether I am talking beyond what I know, but it seems to me that the question of a federated society in London, with branches all over the country, has not even in the present instance produced absolute harmony of working. I do not know whether I am speaking by the book, but I suppose I am right in saying I have heard that there were certain differences of opinion as regards the holding of this Exhibition here between the local branch and the parent Society in London. I have no doubt that both parties were perfectly right. [Laughter.] I am perfectly certain if we had a British Philatelic Society and points of difference arose, the Manchester Society, with its North-Country ruggedness, would take its own line, and be perfectly right; and we in the south, the Philatelic Union or the Royal Philatelic Society, might take an opposite view, and we should think we were equally right. On the whole, I do not see that the practical results are sufficient to warrant us taking such a step as to suggest the formation of a National Society. I think some good may be done by discussing it to-night to clear the air, but I cannot see myself that practically the results will be sufficient.

Mr. Bishop has very ably set forth one of the most important points—the question of journal. There is no doubt that in all societies only a very limited number of members can attend the meetings, and if those who live at a distance are not kept in touch with the parent Society, they could say, What advantage do I get unless I am in

regular communication with the society through the medium of the journal?" But sending out, as Mr. Bishop said, a journal every week would involve a very serious expense, and, as he has said himself, it would lap up to a very large extent the amount of the subscriptions, because in a Society like that you could not have anything better than a mere nominal subscription. I take it, if such a body were started, all existing Societies would still go on, and they would have to be affiliated, and many of the existing Societies have each got their own journal, and each Society (no doubt rightly) thinks its own journal is the best and would not want to give this up.

It seems to me the difficulties are too many in the way of the formation of a Society, nor do I think the advantages gained would be sufficient to enable us to recommend its formation. Of course I might say here that I am practically only voicing my own opinion. I have the pleasure of being here as one of the delegates from the Royal Society. It was expressly stipulated that we should be here as absolutely free to express our own individual opinions and to report on the discussion to our Society, but that any action, either in voting or in speaking, would not be necessarily endorsed by the Royal Society, but would be, of course, received by them and duly and properly considered. Therefore I wish you, Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, to clearly understand that, as far as I am concerned, I am simply speaking of my own independent opinion, and it may be possible my brother delegates hold exactly opposite opinions. I merely mention it because, although there may be advantages in the formation of a British Philatelic Society, I am distinctly of opinion that individual effort in Philately is better than what I may call philatelic socialism. My opinion is, there are a great many Societies started in this country, their numbers are rapidly increasing, and I feel firmly convinced that the progress made has been so remarkable, and the activity of the Societies is so satisfactorily developing, that we might very well be content to go on as we are for another period of time before advocating the formation of any other body which might possibly have a tendency to weaken the individual efforts of these Societies. You cannot have a better instance of the activity of Societies than the holding of this important Congress and this important Exhibition by what is technically called a Junior Philatelic Society. It is an instance of enterprise which strikes home to us older philatelists as being absolutely a development of the twentieth century. Therefore I think, as Philately is so alive and so individual, and the work undertaken by the Philatelic Societies is of so excellent a nature, we should hesitate very much before we took any step, however

well-advised or however well-considered, which might be the means of undermining the very excellent result which has attended our efforts up to the present time. Therefore, as far as I am concerned, although I fully recognize that Mr. Bishop has brought forward a very interesting subject and argued it with great ability, I consider that this question of the formation of a British Philatelic Society has not yet arrived in the range of the practical politics of Philately. [Hear, hear, and applause].

MR. G. B. DUERST (Manchester Philatelic Society) : Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—The idea of a National Society for the United Kingdom is in the abstract very nice, but we have to consider there are various other items. One item is the cost, especially for junior members. Five shillings a year, even four shillings a year, when they have their own Society's dues to pay, is very much ; for the elder Societies I dare say it does not make much difference.

Then we come to a weekly paper. The cost of a weekly paper is very large. The postage alone, as Mr. Bishop said, amounts to a very large item. For a weekly paper you want a lot of contributions, and you cannot get those contributions for nothing, as you know. I have had a little bit of experience about it. You cannot even get them, very often, when you pay for them [laughter], or if you intend to pay for them. I do not think that at the present moment such a scheme would be feasible.

On the other hand, the scheme of Mr. Pemberton, a Central Philatelic Club with members in London and affiliated with Societies, is all very well indeed and good, but we come to the same thing as Mr. Bishop's scheme. It amounts to the same. Of course Mr. Bishop did not tell us that we should have a nice restaurant under his scheme ; Mr. Pemberton told us that we should have a nice restaurant. I now put forward another scheme, which is to a certain extent based on the German practice of holding Congresses. The various Societies keep their Societies as they are, and a Congress is held every year, changing the place, which is agreed upon twelve months beforehand. You have a Chairman, you have a Secretary, etc., each Society pays *pro rata* per twenty-five members, or fifty members, or one hundred members—just as you like. They pay a certain sum into this general Congress fund for every twenty-five, fifty, or one hundred members, as you may decide, the different Societies to have one delegate for each twenty-five, fifty, or one hundred. If you decide on the twenty-five basis, one delegate for every twenty-five ; if you like to have fifty, one delegate for every fifty. Then you have a Congress like we have here. Papers are invited, papers are read, papers are discussed. These papers

are published in a special book or paper after the Congress is over, and full details of the meetings and whatever else happens are given. My idea is not to publish the things through the Philatelic Press, though they may publish them if they like ; but the different Societies will receive a paper containing everything that passed much more fully than any philatelic paper can give it will give it. In that way we shall come together, we shall discuss various matters of interest to all philatelists and to all collectors. We shall meet every year, and in course of time we shall come to look forward to the pleasant three or four days that we shall spend together with our friends. Even if we meet them only once a year it will be pleasure to meet them. [Applause.]

MR. L. W. FULCHER (Royal Philatelic Society) : I did not come prepared to speak on this question as regards the formation of a National Society, but the Chairman has asked me to give an opinion on the subject. Like Mr. Castle, I am only here to express my own opinion on the question. I am distinctly against the formation of any National Society, but on the other hand Mr. Bishop has not made it quite clear to my mind what he means by a National Society as apart from an Annual Congress. It seems to me that the Annual Congress, which I am thoroughly in agreement with, will fulfil most of the functions which Mr. Bishop has put down to a National Society. [Hear, hear.] Mr. Bishop apparently has abandoned the idea of a federation of Societies, which I think would be impracticable. I think even that, as well as the formation of a National Society, would be an impracticable matter ; but philatelists do want some sort of Congress by which they can meet now and then to discuss subjects which want discussing amongst us with a view to Philately generally. I think the Congress should be the first of a long series, and this will fully meet what we want. There is no need to fix the idea further (as might say) as to the form of the Society. I think a Society would perhaps tend to stereotype Philately in general. Now we have a large number of Societies which are doing a good work in various directions, and there is plenty of freedom and elasticity. We have new ideas, and each Society works out new ideas, which is all for the good of Philately. I think if we turn those into a National Society it may tend to make them all into one groove, which I do not think would be at all a desirable thing. So that while I should oppose any idea of forming a National Society because, apart from what I have said, I do not see what a National Society would be able to do for its members, I think that all we require can be obtained if we can firmly establish an Annual Congress.

MR. W. E. LINCOLN (International Philatelic Society) :

elic Union): Mr. Chairman and Gentle-
men,—While agreeing with Mr. Bishop's
paper on this very important subject to this
extent, that I sympathize with the idea of
the beautiful Utopia we should make if we
had a National Society, I think at the pre-
sent moment the competition and keen
rivalry which exist between all the Societies
make their Society the finest in the king-
dom, and also to encourage their younger
members to come along in Philately, do
far more to encourage our hobby than if all
the Societies were linked together in a
national one. [Hear, hear.] While saying
that, there is an idea which has struck me
for some long time, and that is that there
ould be more brotherly love among the
ocieties. [Hear, hear.] The idea which
as struck me is that, for example, the
ondon Societies, and also the Societies in
the north, where you have a number of
ocieties in a certain limited area, might
ave open nights when delegates could
ttend, and when they sent in their names
hey could be admitted. There would be
pen nights when these other Societies
ould be asked. That means, you will see,
hat if there were half a dozen Societies there
ould be half a dozen open nights, and
members of the five other Societies upon that
ight would attend at the sixth. That means
hat all these members would meet one
nother and know one another. They would
ttend all philatelic meetings, and I think
hey would widen their circle of philatelic
nowledge in a most wonderful degree. I
ink that would be a much better idea than
y a swamping of all these present Societies
y a National Society.

MR. E. PHILPOT CROWTHER (South Wales
nd Monmouthshire): Gentlemen,—I may
ay at once that we in South Wales are very
trongly in favour of some form of federation
upon the lines, perhaps, that the last gentleman
has indicated. We feel that there
hould be more unanimity of feeling amongst
he members of the different Societies, and
we should get to know one another. This
Congress which we have now is a step in that
direction. In fact, let me say, it is the
irst meeting of a federation; if Mr. Duerst's
plan were followed up it would be a sort of
oose federation, all the Societies electing
heir own delegates from year to year, and
eeting each other, and placing before the
body as a whole their general opinions, and
possibly leading up to a sort of national
ederation. My suggestion has been al-
ready indicated to Mr. Bishop, that each
Society should observe its own rules, its own
collections, its own literature, its own ar-
rangements and membership individually;
and yet as a body, as a loose federation, we
should exercise a certain amount of control
over Philately, over undesirable members,
all sorts of things of that kind. There would

be a certain amount of influence wielded by
the body as a whole which I think would be
very beneficial to Philately. In addition to
that, the junior members of many of our
young and striving Societies would be brought
into much better touch with the older col-
lectors. That is the opinion we have in our
district, and we are heartily in favour of any
form of federation which is proposed which
does not take away from the individuality of
each Society, so that each Society can work
without being tied down by any rules insti-
tuted by a parent Society. That is all that I
have to say on the matter. I am in favour of
Mr. Bishop's suggestion.

MR. G. F. GIBSON (Manchester Philatelic
Society): Mr. Chairman,—I am sorry to
strike a pessimistic note in this harmonious
gathering, but I cannot yet discover
exactly what are to be the functions of
this National Society and the distinct lines
they are to take up. I think any one who
has been the secretary of a Society for any
length of time will know the extreme difficulty
that there is in either forming a syllabus or
adopting any course of action which
will commend itself to the members of the
Society as a body. You may try year after
year to strike out new lines and try to make
something which is more attractive to them,
something which will influence them in some
way, but year after year you will find your-
self just in the same position which you were
in before. I do not see exactly what it is
this National Society is to do. You cannot
expect it to draw up rules for the guidance
of other Societies; you cannot expect it to
suggest subjects for discussion by other
Societies; you certainly cannot expect it to
start an exchange packet, as was suggested.
If you send out your packet one year and
get it back at the end of the fifth year after,
if there are two or three new catalogues in
that interval, the man who gets it at the end,
if there is anything left, might do exceed-
ingly well out of it.

I do not know whether Mr. Bishop will
reply to these various remarks which have
been made, but certainly I should like, for
my part, to have some clearer indication of
what is to be the object and what are to be
the duties of this proposed Society.

THE CHAIRMAN : As I am in the position
of the Chairman I do not know that I ought
to say very much, but I hope you will bear
with me in this, seeing that this is our initial
beginning and we have no rules. The
Chairman is not bound by any rules, and
this is an occasion on which I have perhaps
a freer hand than I should have on another
occasion, and I should like to say a word on
this subject. It is a very important subject,
and I think previous speakers have all ap-
proached it from that point of view. I am
strongly of opinion, having regard to the
fact that existing arrangements are working

very well, I am too conservative to attempt to launch out in another direction which must necessarily break up the existing order of things unless I can see very clearly before me that our hobby is going to benefit thereby. My experience with regard to collecting and with regard to Societies' work is this, that Societies are useful and helpful to Philately by the mere fact of the interest they stimulate amongst members who are particularly active in the Society. They are also additionally useful by reason of the friendly rivalry which exists between one Society and another. We are met here to-day, and we have an Exhibition which has been got up by the Junior Society, and you must not overlook this fact, that a very large number of collectors are interested in Philately purely as juniors—juniors not in years, but in Philately—and it might be that what would commend itself to a body of juniors would not commend itself in the same way to those who had got into a more advanced stage. Then there is the third stage, the advanced specialist stage. Now at the present time you have a series of different Societies, provincial and London Societies, which are covering the whole of that work. You have in London the Royal Society, which covers the advanced specialist; you have the very important Society the Herts Society, and another one I could name which covers what I might call the intermediate ones, and gets a great deal of enthusiasm amongst its members; and again you have in London a Junior Society which caters for the younger ones. I fail to see, if you are going to interfere with the existing order of things, and you are going to amalgamate the whole of those together, how a programme can be got out whereby the interest of the members in that National Society can be sustained. You are sure to give a great amount of friction to some portion or another, and you are doing away at the same time with the rivalry which to my mind is doing so much good at the present time. [Hear, hear.] I think there is another thing in regard to this so-called friendly rivalry. It is only friendly rivalry in that sense, and it is begotten by the fact that a man is more or less wrapped up in his own particular local Society. I think that is a very great feature of it. Every man, if he is going to be a useful member of the Society, must by reason of the very interest he takes in the work of that Society think that it is, if not the best, at all events one of the best in existence. I fail to see how a National Society could stimulate that same interest amongst its members which existing Societies can. For that reason alone, without going into my objection to the scheme, I think at the present moment Mr. Bishop's suggestion, although it is an admirable one, cannot come within what I may call practical politics.

I should like to ask Mr. Bishop now, having heard what the delegates have said just to shortly reply on any point that occurs to him.

MR. BISHOP: Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—I am afraid I now find myself in a happy minority of one. [Laughter.] But am not altogether disheartened, because I think that probably it is my own fault and that I have not succeeded in correctly conveying what were my views on the subject. Mr. Castle, Mr. Fulcher, and other gentlemen who have spoken have rather conveyed the notion that the institution of a National Society would in some way affect the present freedom of action and individuality of the local Societies. I do not think there was anything in what I said which in any way suggested that. The Societies of course would remain as at present constituted until the erection of a new Society, a National Society, would in no way affect them except that its object would be to bring all philatelists together at least once a year at the annual meeting. Our Chairman spoke of the friendly rivalry of existing Societies and I do not think that there is anything in the suggestion for a National Society which would in any way tend to destroy that friendly rivalry. I rather think that we should see more of it. He spoke also of the amalgamation of all the existing Societies. I was careful not to use the word "amalgamation"; in fact, I jibbed at federation, which is only a sort of half-amalgamation. There was nothing in my proposal whatever which in any way suggested amalgamation or a merging of the present individual character of the existing Societies. What I do suggest is a vast National Society which would crystallize, as it were, the whole philatelic thought and reflect the activity of the whole philatelic community. From the very fact it would be in a position of great strength, and it would be able to act in emergencies in the strongest possible way for the benefit of the hobby.

Mr. Fulcher, I think, said he wondered what such a Society could do for its members. I think it could do a very great deal. The question has come to me rather abruptly, so that I am not able at the moment to enumerate exactly what its functions would be, but I do claim that whatever it did it would do with the full authority of the whole philatelic community; it would have the whole philatelic world of the country at its back, whatever it did and whatever it carried through. In dealing with the enemies of Philately—and Philately is a hobby that has a great many enemies—I think such a Society would be in an exceptionally strong position. Its Executive Council would, needless to say, be chosen from—I use the term in a snobbish sense—the élite of the hobby, and in that way I think we should have a fine

court of Appeal in all important matters affecting Philately. I purposely avoided going into details as to the suggested Society's programme, but any one who thinks the subject out very fully will readily think a number of duties which could be usefully performed by such a Society.

I am surprised to find that federation is rather favoured by various gentlemen present, but the difficulties in the way of federation are far greater than those in the way of the formation of a National Society.

Another speaker, Mr. Gibson, rather made a sorry at my expense about having a suggestion for an exchange packet, but in the Great Society which I have taken as my model in drawing up these suggestions, the American Philatelic Society, they had for many years, and I think they still have, a very successful exchange section. Of course it was never part of my suggestion that the same packet should go the round of the hole of the members. I am afraid that it did it would be rather the worse for me. I did not even put that forward as a great suggestion; I only mentioned it usually as being one of the possible spheres of activity of the National Society.

I may say, gentlemen, that I think my suggestion would have been more worthy if I thought if the meeting had been held a year ago to discuss it, because at that time there would have been no Philatelic General Congress, and after all the Philatelic Congress was an essential part of the idea, because the annual gathering of the members of the National Society would have constituted the Congress of Philately in this country. I do not think I can say anything else which would help to convince you as to the merits of the idea, and I conclude with the hope that the matter may be further discussed at some future time.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard Mr. Bishop's reply, and I propose to treat the matter in exactly the same spirit in which I think he would desire to take it. He has opened it as a matter of discussion. You have had the benefit of that discussion, and do not propose to take any vote in regard to the particular subject he has brought forward.

MR. BISHOP: As you think best, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN read a letter from Mr. Tillard and a telegram from Mr. Booleman. The proceedings then terminated.

SECOND DAY.

Mr. W. D. Beckton presided.

THE CHAIRMAN: The first subject on the agenda to-day is a discussion upon the question of a Collector's Catalogue and Guide. Mr. Fulcher has kindly promised to open the discussion on this subject, and I will ask him to read his paper.

MR. FULCHER: Mr. Chairman and Gen-

tlemen,—The subject which I am called upon to bring to your notice is the question of a Collector's Catalogue. Now we have a great variety of catalogues with which the philatelic world is blessed or cursed—it all depends upon the point of view—but the catalogue that I am going to speak about is a catalogue compiled for amateurs by amateurs. [Hear, hear.]

Now some of us are interested in this question from the point of view of the training of philatelists; others, on the other hand, are interested in it as a question of prices. As probably there will be a good deal of discussion of what you will perhaps consider a thorny question, I will read it as briefly as possible and confine my remarks to three heads. First of all I will consider as to the need for a Collector's Catalogue, secondly as to the style in which such a catalogue should be written, and thirdly, if possible, the practical realization of it in print.

The catalogue is an indispensable item in the equipment of the stamp collector. The beginner, after he has acquired the rudiments of Philately, must necessarily turn to it to learn what stamps exist and how to classify them in his album, and so on, through all grades of collecting, up to the specialist, who, in the course of his studies, has frequently occasion for reference to it. Now the ideal catalogue would, of course, be one in which you could always turn up any particular variety on which you wanted some information, and, turning aside from what we might term the primary requirements of pure Philately, the catalogue should also serve the collector as a guide to the relative rarity of any particular variety which he may possess, or inform him of the current market value of any specimen he may desire. But these features, being variable and dependent upon many different kinds of causes, are such as, in my opinion, no catalogue could ever adequately determine. The collector of the present day is favoured with a variety of catalogues, and there seems to be a general consensus of opinion in the philatelic world that none of them fulfil satisfactorily the functions that are required of such a catalogue which the collector should possess as a reference book. The catalogues now in existence have many valuable features; they appear frequently in new editions, so that the subject-matter is kept well up to date, but with the sole exception of the French Catalogue Officiel they are all published by dealers, and are, in fact, price lists of what they have to sell. As a consequence there is a certain lack of proportion in the lists of stamps of different countries. The stamps of popular countries which are always in demand are very carefully listed with all the minor varieties, while those of neglected and unpopular countries

are inadequately catalogued. Moreover, most of the catalogues are written mainly with a view to the requirements of the specialist, and no attempt is made to guide the beginner or the medium collector in forming a judgment as to the relative importance of numerous minor varieties which he finds therein recorded. We have indeed seen, during the last few years, the appearance of various simplified catalogues, but in my opinion these are a delusion and a snare from the point of view of the training of a philatelist. They may serve a useful purpose in interesting schoolboys in the pursuit of stamp collecting, but the collector who starts on these lines and perseveres will, I believe, with the fuller knowledge which comes to the industrious worker, in future years bitterly regret the rejection or disposal of a duplicate of many a variety. We must, however, recognize that there are and always will be different styles of collecting. Those who wish to go in for scientific specialism, as it is now termed, will always be few in number, because it demands serious work, and this is more than the average collector is willing to bestow on his hobby. Moreover, it is doubtful whether specialism can be successfully undertaken without a previous experience of general collecting. [Hear, hear.] To collect the stamps of the whole world, even on general lines, is now impossible. There will be no general collecting in the widest sense in the future. The best type of general collector will be he who limits his attention to a group of countries and collects these on intelligent lines with due regard to important varieties. For example, he will not debar all varieties and variations of perforation on the ground that he does not collect varieties of perforation, but he will collect or reject them according to their importance. For example, he may reject the perforation varieties of the recent issues of Austria, but he will have to pay due attention to the perforations of other varieties. [Hear, hear.] Other good types of general collectors—I am using the term in the sense which I referred to—are those who limit themselves by date, either collecting all stamps issued before a certain date or all stamps issued after a certain date. In the latter category will come the new-issue collector. There are other collectors who devote their labours to some particular object—for example, those who collect the stamps showing the work of some prominent firm of stamp printers—and no doubt there are many other kinds of special collectors existing. I consider all these types are worthy of encouragement, and they should have the means, in the shape of a good reference catalogue, whereby they may inform themselves so as to collect intelligently.

Now I come to what I think is a very important point. It is very doubtful whether

the dominating influence of the catalogue in stamp collecting is adequately realized. The domination occurs in two ways, first you may say, from the collectors' point of view, and secondly, as regards the question of prices. Dealing with the first class which have mentioned, every philatelist occasionally comes across a collector who collects a variety which is not recorded in the particular catalogue he works with, and there is reason to believe, I think, that this class of collector is a tolerably numerous one. Now I consider such an attitude is harmful to the best interests of Philately, as it deprives the collector of this type of its truest delight—the exploration of untrdden fields; and also tends, by reducing his hobby to a mere mechanical operation, to negative in general estimation the claim of Philately to rank as an intellectual pursuit to which the devotee labours of half a century have elevated it. It may be said that collection on such lines is a reflection on the intellectual capacity of the collector. [Hear, hear.] But it is probably due to a lack of confidence and a want of guidance. If he can be brought to realize that there are possibilities of exploring his outlook will be widened and his intellectual faculties will be aroused. I might mention that it is not only from the point of view of the collector; sometimes you get very curious results from the dealer's point of view. I think a recent experience of my own is somewhat curious. Lately I have had the good fortune to get a deal to allow me to look through his stamp collection bearing a certain surcharge, of which those who do not collect by catalogue know there are ten types. In the leading catalogue there are only four types given. I was fortunate enough to find all the ten types I required amongst his stock, and it was very amusing to see him taking out the prices for the particular types which I required. He had to fit them all into these four. He saw by that catalogue that there must be four types, and consequently those ten types had to be fitted into those four, and I was only charged accordingly. Probably in this case it was not altogether to my benefit. [Laughter.]

Then the dominance of the catalogue as regards prices. As far as this country concerned, I think I may be quite free in saying that prices are absolutely dominate by the catalogue of Stanley Gibbons. I do not think that people always realize this, as, in fact, the quotations of a certain firm for a certain variety and dependent upon what they have got in stock. It is not adequately realized that these prices are based upon trade requirements, and those people who will take the trouble to think them out will find that in many cases this is not always in accordance with what the true value of a stamp in the market really is. I might

so call attention to the fact that, as all collectors well know, the sudden inclusion of Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue of a variety which has not been recorded there before is a very remarkable effect upon the price of that variety in the market. Those illustrations of what I consider the dominating influence of the catalogue on Philately; and I think to a large extent this does a certain amount of harm. So that speaking for myself I am quite prepared to support the adoption of the principle that it would be very desirable if we could really have a catalogue, a good reference catalogue, for collectors, compiled by collectors.

As to the question of pricing this catalogue, that is a very difficult matter to decide. I shall have something to say upon that later on. The catalogue is going to be done by collectors, I should like to say a word or two upon the second of my three topics, namely, the question of the style in which the catalogue should be done. The catalogue, I think, should be drawn up as Mr. Castle, I think, has pretty frequently referred to. He thinks, and I am inclined to agree and I think many others will agree with him, that the last edition of Moens' catalogue has been about the most successful style of catalogue that we have had. In that catalogue the prime varieties are put in large type, and minor varieties should appear in smaller type. Well, now, there could have to be some discussion as to what minor varieties should be listed, and that could be a very difficult subject; but apart from that, after it is decided what minor varieties must be listed, the catalogue should contain notes as to the reasons for which these varieties are recorded, and if there are any varieties which are known to collectors, think there ought to be a good many notes and things, with regard to literature and so on, as to where the collector is to find further information about the smaller varieties which exist--where he is to find further information as to what they are and what they mean. [Hear, hear.]

Now we come to the question of the pricing of such a catalogue. As I say, very many people are interested in this question solely from the point of view of valuing or assigning a value to varieties of stamps. Now I might say absolutely that I think it is quite hopeless for any body of amateurs to attempt to price such a catalogue. I am very doubtful whether I can offer any suggestion on this point that is worth anything, but I think if it is to be done at all the nearest that an amateur body could go to it would be something on the lines of pricing all varieties, say, ranging in value from a penny to five shillings, by putting a letter A against those varieties; varieties, say, from five shillings to ten shillings B; from ten shillings to £1 C,

running up the alphabet in that way. By this means I think a catalogue collector would get an idea whether a particular variety as to which he wanted to know the value might be worth sixpence or £5; but as to fixing a price I think any attempt is quite hopeless: there are so many causes which produce a fluctuation of value that it is absolutely impossible for any one who is not really in the market to know what value can be assigned to a given stamp. I think the work of compiling the catalogue would have to be undertaken by an editorial committee who would in turn have to invite the co-operation of specialists, and I am afraid the question of finance would be a very serious one, even if many willing workers offered their services gratuitously and the catalogue were designed on a modest scale. The editorial committee would have no light task. It might find some difficulty in coming to an agreement amongst its members as to the exact status of a minor variety. Then I say, as to the question of pricing, some method would have to be adopted to indicate the relative rarity. It should also be observed that the rarity of a stamp belonging to a popular country, or the value of a stamp belonging to a popular country, could not be correlative with the rarity of the stamp of an unpopular country.

These and many other questions which arise would have to be discussed and settled before the work could be taken in hand, and there is no doubt that many philatelists are interested in the question at the present time, and perhaps this Congress may arrive at a solution of the difficulty. I quite think the catalogue would have to be on a very modest scale. We have an example before us of the catalogue for advanced collectors, Collin and Calman's Catalogue, which, with the plates, runs to 1350 quarto pages. Anything on that scale I feel quite sure would be quite hopeless for any amateur body to attempt; but, on the other hand, and in conclusion, I may say that I think that if we can find any means by which a catalogue for collectors by collectors can be realized, the end is a very desirable one. But I cannot quite see at the present time how we can actually realize the said catalogue and see it in print.

MR. FRANZ REICHENHEIM (Royal and Herts Philatelic Societies): A few years ago I received a circular from the firm of Kohl, in Chemnitz, saying that the Philatelist Societies of Berlin, Hamburg, Dresden, Leipzig, and Vienna had come to an agreement with Kohl's that their reformed catalogue, which only gives the principal varieties of each nation, should be reissued with the co-operation of a number of collectors elected from the representatives of the different Societies to fix the prices of the respective issues of the stamps. If we could

get our principal firms to agree in the same way it would certainly lead to a catalogue which would be recognized as a standard catalogue all over England and all over the British Colonies. The new edition of this catalogue of Kohl's, which is to be issued at a very cheap price (only 2s. 6d. at present), includes the adhesive stamps and the entires of Germany, the German States, and the German Colonies. All the principal Societies of Germany have agreed to recognize this new reformed catalogue as their catalogue and to induce collectors to value their stamps on this basis.

MAJOR E. B. EVANS : Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—I have listened to what Mr. Fulcher said, and I fully agree with a great deal of what he has said, but I have one thing to say. I have had some experience in the matter of catalogues, and perhaps I know something of the difficulties of a catalogue and the difficulty of arranging and classifying stamps in the ordinary way. I have been advocating for many years past the preparation for possible publication of what I should call a classified catalogue, which I think is the thing that is required by collectors. We want a catalogue which will do both for beginners and for the most advanced collector, giving a simplified list, to start with, of all the actual stamps—I may call it, as we may say, a Post Office list of the stamps—and then of the varieties. I think it should include every possible variety that can be included in a catalogue, and those ought to be themselves classified so as to show that these varieties are not all of the same importance from a philatelic and from every other point of view. It would thus gradually lead the collector on, as Mr. Fulcher himself said, from the simplified collecting to advanced collecting, and in time make him able to select his country and become a specialist in that country with the assistance of that catalogue. But there is an immense difficulty in doing this. I do not suppose any two specialists in the same country would agree exactly as to the merit and importance of the varieties. As far as the present catalogues are concerned, they are absolutely inconsistent; that I fully agree with. [Hear, hear.] There is a temptation, of course, to elaborate a popular country and to neglect the unpopular country. I have dealt, myself, with several countries, and I know what it is; but how are you to classify them? Are you to have a committee which is to go over all these things and bring them into consistent form, or are you to leave specialists to classify things according to their own idea? There are some people more advanced than others who will make a very much bigger list of their country than somebody else would make, who would go into a great deal more detail. The great temptation undoubtedly in the present cata-

logue, besides the over-cataloguing of popular countries, is to put in varieties that are easily described, to the prejudice of those that are not easily described. Now I take it that from a philatelic point of view varieties perforation are about the most insignificant that you can possibly get. The perforation is a mere incident, and the stamp is equally good for postage or for any other purpose if it is not perforated at all; it is merely a means of separation. But if you have got to describe some little minor variety if it is a variety of design, which I think is most important, you have to give some explanation and you fill up the book, and it will involve some extra expense. If you can say 13½ by 14 there it is in a nutshell; and besides that everybody can see it. Anybody who has got a perforated variety can find it if he hunts for it, and there is a great temptation to include varieties of that kind for that very reason.

I fully agree that as much information as possible is to be given in this catalogue. Then what size will it be? I am inclined to think it would be a sort of Encyclopædia Philatelica, thirty or thirty-five large volumes with an oak bookcase thrown in in order to hold it and in order to make use of it. [Laughter.] But a catalogue of this kind, it is to be a general guide to philatelists must be capable of being used; it is of no use if only half a dozen of the wealthier collectors have it. I do not know how many wealthy collectors there are, but I could not afford it unless I got a copy for review. [Laughter.] If a catalogue is to be really a general guide to collectors, I think it must be published at a price of about half crown [hear, hear], or five shillings at the outside. Moens' Catalogue has been mentioned. It is seventeen years ago, I think (1892), since the last edition, and my copy of it is bound in three large volumes. I do not know how much it would be if were brought up to date and elaborated to the present date. I do not know what size it would be or what price it would be. I am fully in favour of having such a catalogue if we can get it, but I think the great difficulty in the first place is making it consistent, and in the second place of bringing it down to a price at which people will buy it. The Catalogue Official of the French Society has been compiled rather on the lines of the proposed catalogue—that is to say, a large body of specialists each took up their country, and they compiled a catalogue from that. It has been arranged in as compressed a form as possible, I think, by lettering and numbering the different varieties and so trying to classify them, but the consequence is it is not very easy to refer to for that very reason. I think that will always be a difficulty. The catalogue that I gather we want would, in fact, be a series of handbooks [hear, hear].

would fill several bookshelves most likely. Then you must remember also that a catalogue of this kind in twelve months is out date—that is to say, it would want continual supplementing to bring always up to date. There are a great many collectors who collect mainly the newer issues, and they would want a fresh edition of this catalogue or a supplement; and if you come to pricing it, then you would constantly want fresh editions. The value of stamps varies greatly from day to day. Of course, as Mr. Reichenheim said, if all the dealers in the world could be persuaded to work by this catalogue and have it priced, that would simplify matters a great deal, but I do not know whether that is at all likely to be carried out. A dealer has to buy stamps as well as to sell them, and it depends a great deal on what he gives for them what he has to sell them at. If it were quite certain that every collector will sell the stamps at half the catalogue pricing, then it becomes a very simple matter, but if a collector has got a stamp which two or three people want he will sell it at the highest price he can get, I suppose. I believe collectors are as bad in that way as dealers are. [Laughter.]

I was thinking of the French Society's catalogue. In that they attempted to price almost everything, but I believe any specialist looking into that catalogue would find that, taking the country he has specialized in, the prices in it do not exactly agree with his idea of the relative rarity. I could speak of one of my own countries, which I am foolish enough to collect, of which I have known a conspicuous example. There is a stamp in that, a fairly rare stamp—not a very rare stamp—and it is priced in almost any dealer's catalogue at £2 or £3. It is priced at 65 francs. There is another stamp of the same country which is a very rare stamp. I want a few copies of it myself and I cannot get them. I know of six copies in existence and they are all used copies; I have never seen an unused copy. That stamp is priced in the same catalogue at 10 francs unused and 12½ francs used. Well, there is not an unused copy, as far as I know, in existence. I should like to have a whole sheet of them. I do not know whether any arrangement could be made for indicating the relative value of stamps. Will collectors be content with that? I believe that the collector who wants to exchange and who wants to have the prices wants them in pounds, shillings, and pence. I doubt if marking them A B C and so on would satisfy him. That seems to me to be one of the great difficulties. I should very much like to see a catalogue of the kind published, and my only feeling is that there will be great difficulty in doing it, almost insurmountable difficulty in doing it.

MR. I. J. BERNSTEIN (Manchester Junior Philatelic Society): Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—The points that have been raised to-day are of course the main stumbling-blocks to the bringing out of a Collector's Catalogue, and the remarks that were made by Major Evans as to the catalogues are, I believe, the principal reasons why such a catalogue—I was going to say is almost impossible. As a matter of fact that is a difficulty which, I believe, is occurring at the present time with albums, and to meet that difficulty albums are now being published in parts. It might be a solution of the difficulty if the existing handbooks, of which we have already a large number published by various Societies, and which I believe are the last words on those subjects, were, not exactly priced, but were more elaborate in this way, that the relative scarcity of the stamps is indicated. That in itself would do away with the difficulty of one country being popular and fetching high prices in the market and the other not. It stands to reason that if there is a stamp of which, say, there are five sheets issued, and another stamp of which there are ten sheets issued, the ratio must be as one to two; but it very often occurs that in the catalogue you will find that the values are practically the same. That is due perhaps to the fact that the one stamp is more popular than the other, and there is more demand for it. At the same time the comparative rarity of those two stamps must still remain. There are sometimes causes which affect the value of the stamps. Perhaps a certain stamp is used on newspaper wrappers and gets thrown away, whereas another one is used on letters and is kept. A footnote would explain the reason why that particular stamp is as rare as the other, whereas, everything else being equal and the standard of issue being as two to one, it must be half as rare as the other. I think if the existing handbooks stated, as far as they could of course, the actual output of the stamps, and gave an indication as to the reason of a large number being destroyed or not being in the market, it would give the collector some guide as to their relative values, and he could then determine practically the value of any stamps that he wanted by the stamps which he found most prevalent in the market; that is to say, if one stamp was to another as ten is to one, the stamps which you find No. 1 in the market being marked a shilling, the other one is worth practically ten shillings. He could guide himself to that extent. If that other one goes up from one shilling to two shillings, then the other one must be worth twenty shillings or as near that as he can possibly get it. That, of course, would also, to my mind, do away with a lot of work and trouble if, as I said before, the existing handbooks could be brought down to that point. There

are, of course, a large number of countries that have not been written up. Well, those are the countries we want the Societies or the various people who specialize in them to take up: and by that means we could then get, as Major Evans aptly called it, an *Encyclopaedia Philatelica*, and if it is not within the means of everybody to purchase it, it could either be sold in parts or on the *Times* system of half a crown a month.

THE CHAIRMAN: You will permit me to say a few words on this subject. I think we all want (I myself would very much like to see) a catalogue published, compiled by collectors for collectors. It is one of those philatelic visions that we all look forward to, but the question is how to overcome the very great and many difficulties which beset you at the commencement. If this catalogue is to be of any value at all it must command universal acceptance amongst collectors, both in regard to the varieties and in regard to the methods upon which those varieties are listed. It must also command acceptance in regard to the indications it gives as to the relative rarity of the stamps. Now the difficulty that I foresee is this: How are you to induce the general body of stamp collectors to purchase a catalogue unless they are getting at the same time an indication with regard to what they should give for their stamps? [Hear, hear.] You are not dealing here with—I will not call it the advanced collector, you are not even dealing with the ordinary full-fledged general collector. You have to get on to the field even below that in order to make a catalogue of this kind a success, and to publish it in sufficiently large numbers to be able to issue it at anything like a reasonable price.

Now a very great majority of people who buy a catalogue purchase it, I should think, for the purpose of ascertaining what the financial value of the stamp is. Whether they want to buy or whether they want to sell, they want to know what present-day price the stamp of the particular country they are collecting commands in the market, and that is, to my mind, one of the strongest objections to attempting to publish a catalogue such as has been indicated. We know perfectly well, and we have it in front of us, the experience of the French catalogue. That was an endeavour to build up a catalogue written by specialists, and we know perfectly well that in the compilation of that catalogue several leading specialists of this country assisted the French Committee in compiling the list of the stamps; but there their labours ended, and the pricing of the catalogue, the question of its being priced, was left, I understand, entirely with the Publishing Committee in Paris. What influenced them to price it I cannot say as a matter of knowledge, but I think we may fairly assume they gave

the matter very careful consideration and came to this conclusion, that unless the catalogue was priced in some way and indication given in pounds, shillings, and pence as to the different values which the stamps in the catalogue bore, it would not command a general sale amongst collectors. And what did they do? They priced it, and I think the general judgment upon the catalogue is that in so far as the material catalogue is concerned it is fairly well done but when you come to deal with the price there is a most lamentable failure. Major Evans has indicated one very remarkable instance of that. I can give you twenty thirty instances, perhaps not so large as his own, where stamps of countries that I have a particular interest in are priced at as many francs as I would be willing to pay pounds. So from that point of view the experience we have to gain from the French catalogue does not lead one to think for a moment that such a scheme of pricing would be successful undertaken by any kind of committee.

In regard to the question of the pricing I was very much struck with the suggestion which emanated from Mr. Reichenheim that the question of price should be left in the hands of a well-known firm of dealers whose catalogue prices rule in this country to-day. I do not know whether they would be prepared to undertake such a heavy task as that. If they would, perhaps in that way we would get over our difficulties. But I would point this out, that if they did undertake the task the effect of their doing so would be that the catalogue, the present issues, would be more or less superseded by this catalogue which we are hoping to bring out. I do not say that that would be a bad thing, I think it would be an extremely good thing, but the effect would be the ultimate, if they did undertake a task of that kind, and perhaps it would assist in coming to a decision.

Now there is another difficult question at this point, and that is the ultimate court of appeal as to the way in which different countries are to be written up. At the present time we know there are certain important countries of which very valuable catalogues have been printed. When you take a country like Sicily, where we have Dr. Diena's handbook, the material is there on which Sicily might be extensively listed in the new catalogue; but when you come to another country with issues which may or may not be equally important—say another of the Italian States—which has not been done at the present time, what are you to do? You are only to reproduce, then, in a country which has not been studied at all, a duplicate in some way of something which has already occurred in to-day's catalogue, and I do not think that in that way we should get very much nearer. I think the catalogue would be of very great assistance.

ce to an ordinary collector in dealing with and deciding what particular varieties he could take in a country which has been very extensively studied; but it would be of very little value to him in regard to countries which at the present time are unpopular, and have not been studied sufficiently to enable the committee to bring out the varieties which fuller knowledge and lapse of time would enable them to do. The question of the expense is another matter. I cannot see myself how it is possible to make a catalogue popular unless we publish it at a price of half a crown or two shillings. I cannot see, again, how it is possible to bring a catalogue such as we want within limits to enable it to be published at any such price. [Hear, hear.] The suggestion in regard to publishing it in parts appears at the outset to get one out of the difficulty, but I should like to point this out, that we have had a good deal of experience of catalogues published in parts, and I do not remember one which was successful. The most successful catalogue which was ever published in parts and completed was that of Collin and Calman, but that catalogue cannot be said to be in any way a success. It is not in any large number of hands, there are only comparatively few copies of about, having regard to the large number of collectors there are. And in other cases, years ago, where Messrs. Theodor Buhl attempted to bring out an elaborated edition of a catalogue which in those days was known as Major Evans' Catalogue, that lamentably failed for want of support. Collectors—especially the people you want to get at, the smaller collectors—will not subscribe to anything that is issued in parts. They make up their minds to buy a catalogue, they want to put down 2s. 6d. or 5s. and have the whole thing done at once. If you have got over all these difficulties I think it would be absolutely necessary that this catalogue should be revised every eighteen months, and that, again, would necessitate the whole of the type of the catalogue being kept up, because the expense of reprinting the whole catalogue from beginning to end, whenever a new edition was being brought out, would be out of all proportion, and it could never be a financial success.

MR. E. PHILPOT-CROWTHER: I am afraid it was too late to take part in the debate, but I heartily support what I understand to be Mr. Reichenheim's suggestion. There is nothing, in my mind, to beat Kohl's Catalogue. It goes into very minute details. There are countries which will possibly be written up in course of time, but he goes very minutely into detail, far beyond our friend Stanley Gibbons, and he does another thing which no other catalogue does, and which will therefore answer, I think, the purpose of a Collector's Catalogue: he indi-

cates the prices of rare stamps which he has not in stock, which means, of course, that he gives an idea of the market value, at the same time indicating that he cannot supply them. That is a very fair thing. With the advantage of a glossary of English terms or French terms, in whatever country it is issued, I think it will serve all the purposes of your Collector's Catalogue. That is my opinion on the matter. It is a first-class catalogue, and it covers really the whole of the ground.

MR. O. K. TRECHMANN: I have not heard very much of the debate. I hardly expected to come here, and I am not prepared to add anything in the shape of a speech on this matter. With the collector who takes up a hobby it is not generally a question of price. Do we buy stamps with the idea of selling them at an advantage or disadvantage? As a rule people have their hobbies, and when they have done with them they are cast aside; all they want is to dispose of them with the greatest possible speed. I think that each man very soon gets to know what he wants and what he does not want, and he very soon finds out himself what the values of the stamps are. He soon finds out what stamps he can get and what stamps he cannot get. A catalogue such as our friend here mentioned, one that gave an approximate value of all the rare stamps, would be a decided advantage. There are very many stamps which are not ordinary, which have no prices opposite them, and, not being priced at all, people are inclined to think they are ordinary stamps. I have found myself in some cases, as a matter of fact, although they appeared to be very ordinary, I have not been able to get hold of them. I have never come across them. It is quite frequently the case. There are such cases as Major Evans mentioned, where some people put a small value on them and do not know there are very few in existence. I think it would be an advantage to fresh collectors to have some idea of market value, and probably as Kohl's Catalogue, which I have never seen myself, has the advantage of having the approximate value put in, that would be an advantage. But on the whole I think every stamp collector very soon gets to find out for himself what is the value of the stamps, if he goes about the market trying to get hold of them. I have tried for a long time to get hold of a certain stamp, clean perforated, but I cannot come across it. It may be in some private collection somewhere, but I have not seen it in the Exhibition. That stamp is not priced, and it would be very useful to have the value of that stamp approximately. But we are sailing along pretty well. We have got these catalogues of Stanley Gibbons, and really I am astonished how they can make their profit. I understand that you can buy much

cheaper everywhere than Stanley Gibbons ; people can generally get them cheaper than their prices. But still it is a very good guide to the prices, I think.

If you attempt to get everything in all varieties it would be, as has been said, too costly a thing to get up, especially if it had to be done from year to year, and there is no doubt when special stamps are taken up they increase in value, and you cannot keep pace with the market value. We shall some day get something of the kind, and I think it is an extremely good thing to have these meetings to discuss these things. I dare say it will lead to something, and I hope myself some day to see a more elaborate gathering.

MR. M. P. CASTLE (Royal Philatelic Society) : Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—Except by express invitation I should have hesitated to say another word, because you have heard a very free expression of opinion to-day upon all sides of the question. It seems to me very much like a modern application of the old fable about the assembling of the mice together when everybody agreed some one ought to bell the cat, but when it came to the question who was to bell the cat nobody stepped forward. Without wishing to attribute any feline attributes to Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue, there is no doubt about it that we, one and all, occasionally feel a little scratched by its claws and would like to get out of reach of it. But there is also another old fable which people who are dissatisfied with the existing state of things may consider. They grumbled at King Log, and Jupiter sent them King Stork and they were no better for the change. In the application of those two old fables practically lies our present difficulty.

I think everybody will agree—the last speaker expressly mentioned it—that we are very much indebted to the very able catalogues which have been got up in this country by the dealers. It is not only Gibbons'; there are others. Of course Stanley Gibbons' was the first one, and that catalogue has been built up by years of constant labour with the assistance and co-operation of eminent philatelists. There is no doubt about it, Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue, as it stands to-day, especially as applied to the English Colonies, has been of unquestionable service to the cause of Philately ; and when we meet here, a body of amateurs, and approach the question how we are going to substitute another catalogue for that one which is so long-established in public favour, that has the enormous advantage of a very big and powerful firm behind it, which has got the machinery of type and binding and all the expensive necessities which you, sir, have alluded to already in hand, we are at once brought face to face with the extreme difficulty of finding any reasonable and practical substitute for

it. Not only that, but speaker after speaker has alluded to the extreme difficulty in the first case of issuing a catalogue that shall be acceptable and find general favour without pricing, and, if that is accepted, the still greater difficulty of fixing the prices which, practically speaking, another person or another man has got to sell the stamps. We can all find certain grievances in existing catalogues. Speaker after speaker to-day has called attention to what are really glaring anomalies in the pricing of certain stamps. But it also remains to be seen, if we were to attempt to fix the prices ourselves, whether we should not fall into quite as great extremes the other way. Mr. Beckton has alluded to, will not say the fiasco, but the distinct want of success which has attended the recent publication of the French catalogue, although myself I am strongly in favour of the academic proposition that such a thing is desirable—nearly every speaker has said the same—I join with them in saying that utterly fail to see how it is to be brought within the range of practical philatelic politics. I do not think we can go much beyond what we have to-day. I think the Congresses are very good. It has shown that there is a feeling in the air that the existing institutions might be better; but I think it will be a very considerable time before those feelings can be crystallized into a definite course of action. It is quite possible that the result of this discussion, which will no doubt appear in the various journals, and the feeling known to be existent on the subject, may induce some modification of the now published catalogues towards adopting some of the views expressed by speakers to-day.

I have ventured to praise Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue, taking that to be the leading catalogue in this country, and you cannot shut your eyes to the fact that as regards the stamps more particularly of Great Britain and the Colonies Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue is taken as the dominant factor in fixing the prices, and every other catalog published throughout the world, in cataloguing those stamps, is more or less—usually very much more than less—affected by the prices. [Hear, hear.] There is no doubt about that fact. Stanley Gibbons have got in this case the best of the stamp trade if I may use that term; they have got the power, and it is natural, as the members of that firm perfectly consistently avow, private and in public, that their catalogue is published by them as a basis on which they sell their stamps; they are prepared to sell their stamps by that catalogue, and they say they have a reasonable right to fix the prices. That is a position it is very difficult indeed to assail. But I think the force of public philatelic opinion might very useful be assimilated through Congresses like th-

order to bring a reasonable pressure to bear upon them and upon the publishers of her catalogues to remedy the anomalies which gentlemen have to-day called attention to. I think that the publishers of the catalogues are, as a rule, eminently reasonable and sensible business men. If they see there is a feeling amongst collectors generally that certain things ought to be remedied, I think it is very likely that one of the most beneficial effects of a Congress like this will be that they will lend a ready ear to every suggestion which has a reasonable foundation of sound philatelic sense; therefore I am very glad that this Congress has discussed this question. As you all know, has been written upon over and over again in the journals until, as I think a brother editor will bear me out, it has been said: "We have had this *ad nauseam*; we really cannot open our columns to a discussion which has no practical bearing." You have ably pointed out to-day the difficulties, and although the idea is one which finds favour with us all, the difficulties are so extreme that there seems no possibility at present of making any progress upon the point.

There is one thing I should like to mention before I sit down. Mr. Reichenheim has told us to-day about this German proposal which, of course, is a very important thing, and we shall see how it works. It goes further than anything has gone before. The only practical suggestion I have seen made on this point is that adopted by the Swiss dealers. There has been a new catalogue by Zumstein, of Berne, a very ably edited catalogue indeed, extensively done with voluminous notes on the stamps of Switzerland, and in that he has taken certain standard varieties—Basle, used and unused, the double Geneva, and other recognized stamps. All the leading varieties are put in large type, and it is explained in the preface that of these standard varieties which are marked in large type the prices have been fixed by a meeting of the dealers of Switzerland held in Berne, and they are taken as standard values. As far as it goes, that is the first attempt that I can see which has a reasonable hope of success in fixing something like a permanent or standard value to definite types. But you have got to consider in the first place that Switzerland is a very small place. The population of Switzerland altogether is not above half that of London, and the stamps of Switzerland, interesting as they are, represent only a very small proportion of the stamps of the world; and what might very possibly succeed in a definite limited section like Switzerland would be utterly inapplicable when you come to apply it to the whole of the British and Colonial stamps, or such remarkable diversities of stamps as are found in foreign countries. Therefore the principle itself is very good,

but it is very difficult of application. It is the germ of a new idea which has been freely discussed to-day, and that is, that if a catalogue is universally adopted—whether it is, in Germany, Mr. Kohl's Catalogue, or Zumstein's in Switzerland, or Gibbons' or Bright's in this country—if they are to be adopted as a collector's *vade mecum*, or collector's Bible, or whatever other term is applied to them, there ought to be a solid substratum of sound financial reliance to be placed upon all the leading varieties of stamps. If, by a Congress like this, we can induce the dealers to take that view and to say that "although we recognize that the catalogues are published mainly for the sale of stamps by this house, still we are in a fiduciary position to the philatelic public, and our duty is, as far as possible, to remedy any possible palpable anomaly existing with regard to the price of stamps, and make our catalogues as far as possible a true reflex of what the values of the stamps are in the country in which this catalogue is published"—if we can by our expression of opinion induce dealers to take up that attitude, we shall have amply vindicated the calling together of this Congress, and we shall have done something which will remove some stones out of the path of Philately at the present time. [Applause.]

MR. L. W. FULCHER (Royal Philatelic Society): As there is another subject to be discussed I will not take up your time for very long, especially as I think the general opinion seems to be mainly in agreement with the lines on which I started the discussion. We can sum it up very well in these words, that we should like to see such a thing, but it cannot be done. [Laughter.] I think those are the main lines on which I opened the question. Nevertheless I do think that the discussion has been very valuable, and I think that we may see some ray of light perhaps in the direction of a solution of the question from the point of view of getting the dealers to meet together and to discuss what they are going to price the standard varieties at. [Hear, hear.] I may say the whole of the discussion, from my point of view, seems to have been on the question of prices, and that is evidently the point which interests the collector mainly. There is nothing which has been said from the point of view of the training of philatelists. Still, the question of prices is a very important one, and I think, as I have already said, the discussion may throw light upon a possible solution of it by getting the dealers to do it for us. [Hear, hear.]

THE CHAIRMAN: With your permission I will pass to the second item and ask Mr. Bishop to open the discussion upon it. The subject is the question of unnecessary issues.

MR. P. C. BISHOP (Chums Philatelic Society): Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—I was induced to come to make a few

preliminary remarks on this subject to-day, because it is one which I have been very much interested in for many years past. I think I may say that I know a great deal about it, and I may be able to offer a suggestion which may meet with your concurrence. I say I may be able, because after the experience of yesterday I am not so confident. I backed a loser yesterday, and I may be equally unfortunate to-day.

This question is, of course, not a new one. I think it is just about fifteen years old—if we date it from the date of the formation of the ill-fated Society for the suppression of speculative issues; it is just about fifteen years ago that there was an agitation in the Press against these repeated issues of unnecessary stamps which were regarded by most people as a very real menace to Philately. I think, if I remember rightly, it was an article by Mr. Castle himself in the *London Philatelist*, entitled, I think, "The Rock Ahead," which served to focus philatelists' opinion generally upon this question; and one of the direct results of that article was the calling of a meeting at 391 Strand and the formation of the S.S.S.S. Well, I need not go into the history of the S.S.S.S. It had a very brief and a very chequered career. I do not quite know what was the matter with it; it has been suggested to me that there were perhaps too many S's in it, but I think it is a more likely explanation that there were too many Bees in the bonnets of certain gentlemen connected with it—at least not exactly connected with it, but to some extent sympathizing with its objects. It was not those who were inside it, but practically those who were outside it. There were certain people who discovered that it was not quite in accordance with their business policy to tell the collector not to buy those things, because they were anxious to sell them; and I think what with that and a few differences of opinion on particular countries the movement was doomed to failure.

Well, that all happened fifteen years ago, and we are now all fifteen years older, and I think many of us have come to the conclusion that it is useless to attempt to dictate to the collector what he shall collect, just as it is quite useless to attempt to dictate to a dealer what he shall sell. The dealer is not in business for his health entirely, and the collector has an odd way of wanting to decide for himself what he shall go in for. Therefore the movement, as then initiated, was perhaps conducted upon the wrong lines altogether. I think it is useless to attempt to decide for a collector what he shall collect, but I do think that a possible way of checking these unnecessary issues is to bring pressure to bear upon the countries involved. Direct pressure, I am afraid, would be totally unavailable, because these issues of stamps

are a source of profit to those countries, but I do think it would be possible to some extent to bring pressure to bear upon them through the medium of the Postal Union. Already the Postal Union has done a little to help us in this respect by passing a resolution—I think it was at the Washington Conference—to the effect that Commemorative stamps issued for only a limited period of use should no longer be granted the right to prepay international mail matter. That, in the eyes of many philatelists, destroys the value from a philatelic point of view. I think there are many philatelists who draw the line as between a collectable stamp and what we used to term, some years ago, gum-paste at that point—whether a stamp is available or not available for international purposes.

But I think it is quite possible that the Postal Union might be willing to go further than that if properly approached by philatelists, not only in this country, but in other countries where this subject is one of interest to a collector; and I think that those would be just the countries which would have the preponderance of votes at the Conference of the Postal Union. I am speaking without notice on this subject, and I am reasonably well up in the exact constitution or the precise rules of the Postal Union. But there are gentlemen in this room—there Mr. Bernstein, for example—who have written and spoken on the subject of the Postal Union, who will probably be able to tell us exactly what our chances would be in that direction. But I do think that if the matter were brought before the Postal Union in a forcible way by not only the collectors of this country, but the collectors of other countries where the subject is regarded as one of pressing importance, some good would be effected.

MR. BERNSTEIN: I know no particular rule in the constitution of the Postal Union which would deal with this matter, but the same, the suggestion which is made, appears to me, is a very novel and useful one, and I think it is something which might attempt. They say nothing attempt nothing gained. It is possible if we to-day pass this resolution to the effect that the Postal Union be asked to do all that possibly can to suppress the issue of unnecessary stamps, and if we bracket with the name of the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain, it might have some effect. If we can only do that at our meetings this week we shall at least have done something to justify our being called together.

One difficulty which presents itself to me is this: One of the great grievances stamp collectors have is the issue of what are called temporary stamps or emergency stamps, that is to say, certain countries will run out of a stamp, and will frequently surcharge another value, causing a shortage of the

lue. Then they have to surcharge some her value to make good the stamps they ve surcharged of the previous value. That, course, is a matter of, I might almost call Home Rule; it is a matter of local wants, d whether the Postal Union will have any over to dictate to these small colonies that ey are not to have small issues of stamps— will not say exactly for the purpose of nning short of them, but keeping small ocks of stamps—whether they will have the over to interfere and say to these colonies, You must not issue emergency stamps," is mething that I really cannot say. As I id at the beginning, the Postal Union, om what we have seen of it in the twenty- x or twenty-seven years it has been in xistence, I believe, tends solely to the good all matters relating to the Post Office, and cidentally, of course, of Philately; and I el perfectly sure that a resolution in the rms that Mr. Bishop has suggested, if presented to the Postal Union, backed by the hilatelic Congress of Great Britain, would least command their consideration.

MR. W. R. LANE JOYNT (Irish Philatelic society): I have listened with great pleasure to the suggestion which has been made, because I think it has been one of the best have heard about this matter. I know efectly well that dealers as a whole, and collectors, are absolutely at arm's-length on his subject, and I do not see any means of etting them together. One person wants to sell and the other person wants to buy. It is absolutely impossible to say to collectors what they shall collect. Some people go in for beauty, some people go in for certain specimens, some people go in for pecimens which others consider are waste paper. It is for each collector to decide what he shall collect. If any suggestion be made to the Postal Union, I think the International Postal Union will most decidedly try to stop all these unnecessary issues, because I think the International Postal Union has—I will not say it has the power, but I will say the desire to keep everything as straight as possible in the various states over which it exercises any control.

MR. W. H. PECKITT: Speaking from a dealer's point of view, I strongly agree about these things. I do not really think the majority of dealers want them; we have already got quite enough to deal in, too much in fact. As regards the Postal Union, whether they have power to stop it I do not quite know.

THE CHAIRMAN: I take it they are out and done.

MR. PECKITT: It does not want any advice at all. I think that something could be done in the way of Commemorative issues, such as all this Jubilee rubbish and so on, which are constantly coming out. They have to have notice, and they have to be llowed before they are available for inter-

national purposes, but in the case of a surcharge, to take one example, it was all over London long before it was advised. I do not see what could be done there. I think the Jubilee stamps should be stopped to a certain extent. Speaking on behalf of dealers, I do not think the majority of them like them. Personally I detest them. I should think Mr. Bishop's suggestion that something be drawn up and forwarded to the Postal Union might do something. Possibly in the meantime some of the Continental Societies might join in and in that way make it more powerful still.

MR. HUMPHREY BENNETT (Northampton Philatelic Society): Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—I have come from the Midlands, and my Society told me this. After hearing that the dealers do not care about these issues, I propose to put before you what they asked me to say. It was that if they could get the dealers to cut them more or less out of their catalogues and albums it would be a great help to collectors, because the collectors, who are collecting in an Imperial Album and that sort of thing, go on what is put in; they do not like to see the blank spaces. If the dealers were to slowly cut them down—of course they would not care to destroy their stocks—but still, if they could see their way to cut out these things from the albums it would be a great help.

MR. M. P. CASTLE: My brother delegate from the Royal Society suggested I should say a word on this important point. As Mr. Bishop has said, it is not a new grievance at all, and I think that he is correct that some fifteen years ago, goaded to a state of philatelic frenzy by the constant appearance of these stamps, I put pen to paper and started a discussion on this subject, which led to the formation of a Society. That Society, I say, was founded on very sound lines, and the policy was perfectly correct. I do not think there was any fault of the S's or the Bees. The thing was founded on perfectly sane lines, and if it had been adhered to as it should have been done by a certain number of dealers, there was no reason why it should not be in existence today. There was no attempt to dictate what people should collect, but one of its main objects was, if possible, to approach the countries and point out to them the inadvisability of issuing stamps which were not required for public purposes. I believe that Society in its existence did some good; in the case of, I believe, the Greek stamps and others it had a deterrent effect.

I cannot help thinking that Mr. Bishop has struck a very sensible note in his advocacy or suggestion of a remedy for this complaint. I do not know that it will have any practical effect, but I certainly think it could have no possible bad effect if we were to approach the Postal Union with a carefully

worded petition on behalf of the Philatelic Congress of this country, deplored the appearance of so many unnecessary issues, and asking them, as far as they possibly could, to discountenance any stamps which were not really issued for public postal purposes. I think that the mere knowledge that such a petition was sent in to the Postal Union would certainly have nothing but a good effect; and, speaking for myself, I should be very glad to support any resolution that was brought forward on those lines. There is no doubt about it that, as Mr. Peckitt has told us, the constant appearance of these stamps, many of which are absolute rubbish, has a very bad effect. The dealers hate them when they have them to sell, and the collectors hate them when they have bought them; and I am sure if we could expunge from the catalogue and from our collections nineteen-twentieths of all the issues of Commemorative rubbish, Philately would be all the better and we should be all the happier. I have much pleasure in supporting Mr. Bishop's proposal.

MR. REICHENHEIM: Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—As Mr. Peckitt declared that the majority of the dealers are against those issues, I think that it would be very good of Mr. Peckitt if he would induce the Dealers' Association to bring forward a resolution of the Association to the effect that dealers should not take up those issues in future. I think that would help to a great extent.

THE CHAIRMAN: What I propose to do is this: Having heard the expression of opinion, I have drafted during the time I have been here this resolution, and if it commends itself to you I will ask somebody to formally propose it, and then I will put it to the meeting:—

"That this Congress is of opinion that a petition should be prepared and presented to the Universal Postal Union, soliciting their help in the suppression of Commemorative stamps and other stamps which are unnecessary for the public service."

I have left out the word "speculative," because it is one of those things which the Universal Postal Union might not understand, or might say they did not understand. It is intended to be covered by the words, "Other stamps which are unnecessary for the public service." That is the idea.

Now you have heard the general scheme of the resolution it might be amended. No doubt it could be in some direction. The idea will be that, assuming you are unanimously of opinion, as I gather you are from the speeches I have heard, something should be done in this direction, the wording of this petition might very well then be left to a small committee of three. It will have to be very carefully prepared. The wording will have to be very carefully considered.

Then I suggest that it be signed by the senior delegate from each of the Societies represented at this Conference, and in this way the Universal Postal Union will see that it had, at all events, the support of the Philatelic Societies of this country.

MR. BERNSTEIN: Might I suggest that the petition to the Postal Union be also sent to the Dealers' Association and amended to suit the different circumstances?

THE CHAIRMAN: Certainly.

MR. BISHOP: Might I suggest that better than the word "suppression," which implies the stopping of something which has been done, would be the phrase "discourage the issue of such stamps"? I forget the precise wording of the resolution, but you use the word "suppression."

THE CHAIRMAN: I did.

MR. BISHOP: Our object is not to keep the from circulating stamps which are already issued, but to prevent others being issued.

THE CHAIRMAN: "That a petition is prepared and presented to the Postal Union soliciting their help in the prevention of future issues of Commemorative stamps," and so on.

MR. BISHOP: Yes, that is excellent. I propose that resolution.

MR. W. R. LANE JOYNT: I second it. The resolution was carried unanimously.

THE CHAIRMAN: I should like you to appoint a committee of three to settle the wording of this petition.

MR. CASTLE: I suggest yourself, Mr. Bernstein, and Mr. Bishop.

THE CHAIRMAN: I should like to see Mr. Castle's name identified with it.

MR. DARLOW: I suggest two Manchester men and two London men—Mr. Bernstein and Mr. Beckton, Mr. Castle and Mr. Bishop.

THE CHAIRMAN: These four names are nominated. Will somebody second that?

MR. BENNETT: I second that.

THE CHAIRMAN: It is proposed that a small sub-committee consisting of Mr. Bishop, Mr. Castle, Mr. Bernstein, and myself be appointed.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Reichenheim can before we part, to say a word.

MR. REICHENHEIM: I mentioned before that the best method for preventing speculative issues would be if the Dealers' Association would take the matter in hand as we and I propose that we ask the Dealers' Association to take steps towards this end.

THE CHAIRMAN: That practically would be done if a similar petition, as I understand, were sent to the Dealers' Association.

MR. REICHENHEIM: Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN: And you propose that?

MR. REICHENHEIM: Yes, I propose that.

MR. BERNSTEIN: I have much pleasure in seconding it.

The resolution was carried unanimously and the proceedings terminated.

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VOL. IX.

Topical Notes

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

New Stamp Magazines

[T] seems to me, from the number of new stamp papers that have reached me during the past year, that collecting must be booming in many parts of the world. Amongst the latest comers I have to welcome the following:—

The Collectors' Journal.

A well got up, well printed, and good-looking paper is No. 1, just to hand from Lindquist and Lauritzen, publishers, of Chicago, U.S.A.

This is a monthly paper, and is to be the official organ of the energetic Chicago Philatelic Society and the American Society of Curio Collectors, from which I gather it will not be entirely devoted to stamps.

This first number contains articles on "The Seybold Collection of Original Covers," by Mr. J. B. Howe, with illustrations; "The Advantages of Postal Card Collecting," by Mr. S. Schachne; "What appears on the Faces of our Stamps," by the Rev. L. G. Dorpat; and several others on subjects which are not philatelic.

This paper is edited by Mr. H. L. Lindquist, and the subscription is 50 cents per year.

The Hobbyist

a small monthly paper for stamp collectors, hailing from Winnipeg, Canada. It is edited by Mr. J. J. Hooper, and the subscription is 25 cents a year.

The matter is mostly chit-chat, and this first number does not contain any serious articles.

Schweizerische Philatelistische Nachrichten in German, and comes from Berne, Switzerland. It is published by the well-known dealer, Mr. E. Zumstein, and is edited by Mr. J. F. Arnold. The subscription is francs per annum.

This first number contains notes on Swiss stamps and a careful chronicle of New issues.

Gazzetta dei Filatelisti

Is a new monthly paper of a large size, published in Italian and edited by Signor A. E. Fieicchi, of Milan. The subscription is 3 lire per annum.

The Philatelic Journal of America.

Mr. C. H. Mekeel is trying to resuscitate this famous old magazine, and has undertaken to edit it himself on condition that five thousand subscribers are secured. This is a large number to commence with, but to such an energetic man as C. H. Mekeel nothing is impossible, and I wish him all success. The *P. J. of A.* has published many a good article in its time, and issued in all nineteen yearly volumes, and I should be glad to see the paper reappear, as a really good American paper is much wanted.

Stamps with "Inverted Centres"

THE well-known German writer, Herr Theodore Haas, has been publishing (in the *Ill. Brief. Journal*) a very complete list of stamps that are known with inverted centres.

In writing about the United States 1869 issue, I think Mr. Haas makes a small mistake which it is best to point out. Mr. Haas states that "the rarity of these errors is explained by the fact that there was one stamp with the error in each sheet, and that besides when the error was discovered the Government did not accept any more sheets with them."

These stamps are bicoloured, and are printed by two operations. The errors were caused by one portion of the stamp in one colour being printed correctly, and the other portion in a different colour being printed inverted. Some twenty years ago I saw a used block of four of the 24 cents which had been found in Liverpool; all four stamps had the centre inverted, and this unique block is now in a well-known American collection.

In the case of the 15 c., 24 c., and 30 c. stamps, whole sheets of each were printed and issued without the error having been discovered, and most of the specimens known are used, unused being amongst the greatest rarities in U.S. stamps.

The Stamp Trade Protection Association
SENDS along the following audited statement of accounts, from which I am glad to see there is a substantial balance in hand towards the expenses of any prosecution that may be necessary in the future :—

THE STAMP TRADE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION, LTD.

Profit and Loss Account.

October 31, 1908.

	£ s. d.
General expenses, inquiry fees, etc.	11 2 3
Postages, fares, etc.	11 14 6
Salaries	50 0 0
Balance carried forward	68 17 0
	<u>£141 13 9</u>

October 31, 1908.

	£ s. d.
Balance brought forward from 1907	
Account	64 0
Subscriptions	46 10
Commissions	31 2
	<u>£141 13</u>

Balance Sheet.

November 1, 1907, to October 31, 1908.

October 31, 1908.

	£ s. d.
Balance brought forward from Profit and Loss Account	68 17 0
Special Purposes Fund	57 11 10
LIABILITIES	10 13 3
	<u>£137 2 1</u>

October 31, 1908.

	£ s. d.
Cash in hand and at Bank	128 4
Inquiry forms in hand	4 0
ASSETS	4 17
	<u>£137 2 1</u>

I have examined the books relating to the above statement and find it to be in accordance with same and correct.

J. S. G. TELFER, *Secretary.*

W. B. KIRKPATRICK, *Auditor.*

W. HADLOW, } *Directors.*
F. H. OLIVER, }

Auction Prices

GLENDINING AND CO. (7 Argyll Street, Oxford Circus, London, W.) realized some fair prices at their sales on January 26 and 27. The Transvaals in particular were a fine lot, and sold remarkably well. Amongst other lots I note :—

	£ s. d.
<i>Cape of Good Hope.</i> 1s., deep green ; fine used pair	3 12 0
<i>Cape of Good Hope.</i> 6d., bright mauve ; a fine used pair	3 0 0
<i>Natal.</i> 1859, no wmk., <i>imperf.</i> , 1d., rose-red ; unused block of twenty- four	6 5 0
<i>Transvaal.</i> July, 1870, 6d., ultra- marine, <i>imperf.</i> , should be Gibbons' 38a, an uncatalogued but well- known variety, superb and with large margins	26 0 0
<i>Transvaal.</i> September, 1870, 6d., blackish blue, Gibbons' 50, brilliant mint copy of this rare stamp	5 0 0
<i>Transvaal.</i> 1876, fine roulette, 1d., red ; Gibbons' 97, superb and practically without postmark	4 5 0
<i>Transvaal.</i> 1876, 3d., lilac, Gibbons' 99 ; a brilliant unused copy of this rare stamp	7 0 0
<i>Transvaal.</i> 1876, 6d., blue, Gibbons' 118 ; a very fine and bright unused copy of this rarity	15 10 0
<i>William IV.</i> , pattern Crown, 1831 ; proof Half-Crown, 1831. Both very fine and with plain edges. The Crown very rare	7 10
Proofs with milled edges, 1887, five pounds, two pounds, sovereign and half-sovereign. Brilliant	9 0
U.S. America, twenty dollars, 1872, ten dollars, 1845, five dollars, 1861, and one dollar, 1853. All fine	7 7
Group of four medals (awarded to a Sergt., West African Regt.). Fine and rare—	
(1) Coronation, King Edward VII.	
(2) Distinguished conduct in the field, 1898.	
(3) Sierra Leone, 1898-9.	
(4) Ashanti, 1900, one bar— Kumassi	9 0
A field officer's gold medal for the battle of Vittoria, June 21, 1813, presented to Major Peter Fraser (Royal Scots)	50 0

Coins and Medals

MESSRS. GLENDINING AND CO. (7 Argyll Street, Regent Street, London, W.) held an important sale of coins and medals on January 21 and 22 last.

The following were a few of the pieces realized :—

	£ s. d.
<i>William IV.</i> , pattern Crown, 1831 ; proof Half-Crown, 1831. Both very fine and with plain edges. The Crown very rare	7 10
Proofs with milled edges, 1887, five pounds, two pounds, sovereign and half-sovereign. Brilliant	9 0
U.S. America, twenty dollars, 1872, ten dollars, 1845, five dollars, 1861, and one dollar, 1853. All fine	7 7
Group of four medals (awarded to a Sergt., West African Regt.). Fine and rare—	
(1) Coronation, King Edward VII.	
(2) Distinguished conduct in the field, 1898.	
(3) Sierra Leone, 1898-9.	
(4) Ashanti, 1900, one bar— Kumassi	9 0
A field officer's gold medal for the battle of Vittoria, June 21, 1813, presented to Major Peter Fraser (Royal Scots)	50 0

	£ s. d.
Major Fraser was killed whilst leading a forlorn hope at the siege of St. Sebastian. The medal is accompanied by the official letter signed by Prince Frederick, Duke of York, conferring the decoration.	
One bar— <i>Virginie</i> , May 19, 1808 (William Blanchard). Very fine and very rare, with guarantee and box of issue; seventeen medals issued	12 10 0
William Blanchard was assistant surgeon of the <i>Virginie</i> .	
One bar— <i>Gut of Gibraltar</i> , July 12, 1901 (John Russ). Very fine, in box of issue	6 5 0
Served as Royal Marine on H.M.S. <i>Cæsar</i> .	
Indian Chief's silver medal, 1814, obv. bust of George III, rev. Royal Arms, presented to loyal Indian chiefs. Fine and rare	8 5 0

Description of New Stock Books arranged and priced recently

Great Britain..

VOLUME V of used stamps is now ready. This contains "British Stamps used Abroad," a very fine lot, including many varieties, and all priced very reasonably.

At the end of the book there are a few pages of odd and uncommon obliterations on British stamps.

Holland.

Two volumes have just been rearranged. The stamps of this country must have been in great demand during the last two years, for in addition to the grand lot in the "Mann" Collection, we also bought the fine specialized collection formed by Mr. Selby, but nearly all the better stamps have been sold, and our stock books are now sadly thinned out. Still, specialists in this popular country will find many good things to interest them in these new books.

Iceland.

We have recently bought a large parcel of the provisional issues of 1902-3 overprinted "I GILDI." These include a number of rare errors and varieties not previously in stock; all these have been added to the present stock book, and we have been enabled to make a considerable number of reductions in prices owing to the reasonable rates at which we made this last purchase.

Absence from England

I HAVE to give notice that I am leaving England for a trip abroad, and expect to be away from March 2 to April 10 next. All letters in reference to business or to *G.S.W.* should be addressed to the firm and will receive prompt attention.

Incidents at the Manchester Exposition

By W. WARD

I GUESS I just got there. I stood in Piccadilly and wondered whether I was in Manchester or London. The Infirmary and Queen's Statue were Manchester, but surely the faces hid from the Capital.

"Follow the crowds" read the northern White City posters, and I did.

The Hulme Town Hall seemed as far up the Stretford Road as either the multitude of electric cars or people desired to go. I entered, having been thoughtful enough to provide myself with a ticket of admission—free, gratis, and for nothing—like a lunch counter across the "Pond."

Up the wide staircase and into the chief hall I soon found myself. Owing to the crowds I had to bide my time before I could possibly inspect what afterwards I found to be a really magnificent lot of exhibits. Round and about the hall were the dealers' stalls. And I'll swear I saw more smiling tradesmen in three minutes than I have seen in a lifetime. It was not an ordinary "Yes-what-can-I-show-you-sir, thank-you-madam-

may-I-send-an-approval-selection-a-thousand-mounts" sort of smile. They were the smiles that won't come off—at least until Manchester of 1909 is forgotten—and that will be a long time hence.

Taking off my topcoat and hat on account of the warmth, I was immediately besieged by visitors who imagined that I must be an official, daring to be semi-dressed. A thousand voices queried, "Where's the Prince of Wales's Mauritius stamp?" I might mention that the cottonopolis is a great newspaper centre and can quite equal the Capital. On the opening day one or more enterprising journals came out with the information that the Prince of Wales was exhibiting his £1450 stamp. Of course that was solely Mancunian journalese. Even triangular Capes were mild in comparison with the stamps of Mauritius. One lady sidled up to a committeeman and said, "I have a two-penny, blue, Mauritius—what is it worth?" The questioner was an old bird at the game and had heard the tale before (and behind).

"Let me have a look at it?" he replied. Guess you're correct, reader. It was an 1863 C.C.—and not half a "fly" copy at that.

Of course the stewards took great care of the exhibits and had their eyes "all over." One official noticed a gentleman studying very carefully the Great Britain exhibits for fully ten minutes, and then draw from an envelope a stamp or stamps. Looking first at his own and then at the exhibit, he seemed unsatisfied at the result. The "watchdog" ever on the "scent," slid along, and asked, "Got something similar, sir?" "No, I do not think it is quite the same," replied the rather puzzled guest. And one doesn't wonder. He had been carefully examining a case of penny blacks—and the stamps he had in his hands were a pair of ditto. To hear a sober philatelist emit a prolonged whistle is something to inquire into. The reverend gentleman—for the visitor was of the cloth—had a pair of "V.R." Officials—one rather poor at a corner—but still a pair. "Put those in your pocket, take them home and take care of them," whispered the steward. He was an honest man, and we hope he may be rewarded. (This incident is truly an actual happening at Manchester—W.W.) Another similar, but differently ending story in regard to English is of interest in comparison. A youth showed about twenty 1d. "Venetian" reds, eight halfpenny (small) red, two threepenny, and one each twopence-halfpenny and fourpenny, 1880, to a "buyer" during the course of the Exhibition, asking what thy were worth and if he cared to purchase them. "I cannot make you an offer—what do you require?" asked the wily buyer. "Three-and-six," half-hesitatingly, ventured the owner. "Oh, no, I could not give that—they are no good for postage!" Would there have been a Spaniard there to essay "Embustero!" He got the lot for a florin. (A £1000 cheque, countersigned R.D., will be paid to the reader pointing out any sort of a moral here.)

Philanthropy, as well as Philately, was one of the features of the Exhibition. Everything was given away—bar exhibits. Messrs. Gibbons eclipsed all by presenting quite new copies of the 1908, Part II., of their Catalogue. It was a draw. Those readers who have ever seen carrion crows in the Far East waiting for a dying horse to finally expire, before commencing the banquet, will readily appreciate the waiting of small boys round Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' twin stall at the Manchester Exhibition.

News has been known to travel faster than the telegraph in that land of mysterious mysteries—India—by some unaccountable means. But I am open to wager that "greased lightning" was a "blamed fool" to

the quickness that the information of Messrs. Gibbons' philatelic philanthropy got over the Exhibition—nay—all Lancashire—if the number of budding citizens was any criterion.

To save the razing to the ground of the double stall, one of the philanthropists chucked, aimed, and threw a volume into the midst of the surging, seething mass of besieging little-boyhood. It saved the day—but eye-witnesses wondered whether it was "a wise mother that knows her husband's child."

Though the skeleton was picked, the odour remained, and for many hours afterwards several, perhaps future prospective philatelists, had quite a loving and keen interest in the name, aim, and house of 391.

One very enterprising and business-like gentleman, earlier on, asked for a Catalogue, and being offered one, said, "Oh, you just gave me Part II a few minutes ago. I want Part I." (The Manchester Exhibition Committee are considering the presentation of a diploma.)

Certainly the Model Post Office so kindly "loaned" by Mr. Sydney Buxton, our "with-the-times" Postmaster-General, was one of the greatest draws of the whole show, both to the public and philatelic visitors. The postal authorities laughed at more than one clerk being required on Thursday morning. Gradually the smile wore away; they had five busily working by tea time, and they all did overtime that night as well as the remaining two nights. Those clerks came along to Hulme Town Hall with cynical views, but went away sober and wiser, one even saying to the writer, "I was never so surprised in my life—and I have worked since a boy in the Post Office—and stamp collecting seems one of the most instructive and interesting hobbies there possibly can be." That's the way—and I'll bet that man becomes a philatelist. To show the hardness of the work, one of the sorters showed me the palm of his right hand on Saturday evening. It was quite bare of skin over a space larger than a crown piece and, bleeding, presented a very nasty wound. It was caused through the continual friction of the knob of the obliterating-stamp. To cap all, this jovial sorter said, "I don't mind; they've all got good, clear impressions." And the man meant it. Those men worked hard not because they had to, but because they entered into the spirit prevailing.

Of course there were the humours connected with the working of this provisional postal office. Many people wanted obliterations placed upon all sorts of articles "just to carry away as mementoes of the great fête." Though one or two may have been favoured, the officials were obliged to refuse. Others wanted post cards and envelopes

already prepaid with postage, cancelled and then handed back to them. This also had to be refused on account of official regulations, which forbid a Post Office servant, upon pain of imprisonment and dismissal, to allow a packet out of his care, but which must be properly delivered to the addressee.

Many were enthusiastic to a high-pitched degree. One gentleman went so far as to address an envelope to himself, and frank with a complete set of British stamps from a halfpenny to ten shillings. He tossed a sovereign as to whether he should also affix a £1 stamp, but he lost—or won. His little effort to secure a unique entire with stamps obliterated by the special cancellation cost him £1 2s. 2½d. Certainly he possesses the only 5s. and 10s. stamps in the world so cancelled—for the postmark will not be used again, the letters and figures being dispersed from the cancelling-stamp upon its return to the General Post Office at Manchester. One visitor went so far as to offer £5 for the obliterator as it stood, but did not offer to provide for the postal clerk's remaining days.

Many funny packets passed through the hands of the Exhibition sorters during those three days. Letters franked with a dozen halfpenny stamps placed separately at intervals over the cover, so that each stamp would receive a postmark, were common events. One gentleman had placed a half-cent Quebec stamp upon a post card; but his was not the only peculiar unorthodox label handed to the clerks or posted in the letter-box.

Stewards' badges were franked on the back thereof, and cancelled. The height of originality was attained by a well-known member of the Manchester Philatelic Society, who affixed a penny and a halfpenny stamp

respectively at either side of his collar, which he addressed to himself, mailed, and finally replaced round his neck. Needless to say, he was the "star turn" of Saturday evening, and an object of interest to young boys, old boys, other boys, and likewise ladies. (Just upon going to press, we hear that his wife will not believe him that it was the *G-oy* of the evening alone that caused it.)

Very few registered letters were mailed, so that those who mean to have examples of the first official Philatelic Postmark in all its forms will find the Registered Receipts rare.

We believe the amount of mail matter passed through the Exhibition Post Office during the two and a half days (for the office did not open until 3:30 on the first day) was upwards of thirteen thousand pieces of matter—though it must have been very much more—our information being officially ventured at about six o'clock on the Saturday.

The Congress was a success, but we are uncertain about the issue of a "Collector's Catalogue." If they "do and dare of"—peace to their ashes and plenty of asbestos.

Those that were convinced that the Exhibition would be a success, were surprised at the greater success than the success, that they expected would be a success, was—to put the matter into a Hibernian nutshell.

Everybody was satisfied—dealers were satisfied, exhibitors were satisfied, visitors were satisfied—nay, one is not satisfied. The writer bemoans the limit of space allotted for this article, and is sorry he cannot give further incidents of note for the benefit of those unlucky—almost wretched—people who could not attend the Manchester Exhibition.

Manchester Philatelic Congress—*contd.*

Report of Proceedings on Saturday, February 20, 1909

MR. R. W. D. BECKTON presided.

THE CHAIRMAN: There are some gentlemen from London who desire to catch the 4.10 train, and it does not give us very much time for the discussion. I do not know whether it would be to your wishes—I leave myself in your hands with regard to that—that we should take first the second part of the agenda. I have two matters for discussion to-day. The first is, "The formation of a body or committee to take in hand the disposal of a deceased collector's stamps, etc." ; and the second is the holding of an annual Congress and its venue for 1910. If anybody asks me to take it in the reverse order I shall be happy to do so.

MR. G. F. H. GIBSON: I propose they be taken in the reverse order.

THE CHAIRMAN: Is it your wish they should be taken in the reverse order? [Cries of "Yes."] Then I will ask Mr. Reichenheim to open the discussion upon the holding of an annual Congress and its venue for 1910.

MR. REICHENHEIM (Royal and Herts Philatelic Societies): Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—Your Committee has honoured me with the request to open the discussion on one of the principal questions on the agenda of this Congress, namely, whether it is thought advisable to hold such a Congress yearly or at least from time to time. I am sure you will all agree with me that we have

had most enjoyable and instructive meetings, and the success of this gathering is entirely due to the excellent management of the President and the Committee of the Junior Philatelic Society of Manchester [applause], to whom the heartiest thanks are due not only from those who are able to attend, but also from all the English collectors who take a real interest in the promulgation of our hobby. [Hear, hear.] From this latter point of view I think we cannot do better, for the benefit of Philately, than to arrange regular meetings [hear, hear], perhaps yearly, of representatives of all the Societies and of the principal dealers of Great Britain, with the view of giving leading members the advantage of becoming personally acquainted with each other, and of exchanging ideas and of affording them an opportunity of listening to one or two papers of universal philatelic interest, and the possibility to discuss questions of importance to every Society or individual collector, and to create a regular intercourse between the Societies, thus forming a kind of union of all Societies and collectors of Great Britain. In doing so the Societies, as a body, would easily be able to detect and to exclude bad elements from all Societies, to expose forgers, to help to suppress unnecessary and speculative issues, to put a check upon dishonest dealers, to find a way to publish a universally recognized Collector's Catalogue, etc., without going to the trouble and expense of forming a new Society. I think if you decide to hold such a Congress annually, and I hope you will do so, it should always be held in different towns [hear, hear], under the auspices of one of the leading Societies; and the Society which issues the invitation to the next Congress should accept the responsibility of organization on behalf of the other Societies from the time the previous Congress closes.

Gentlemen, I now move the resolution:—

“That the representatives of the leading Societies of Great Britain here assembled think it advisable to hold a similar Congress annually.”

And trusting that this resolution will be duly seconded and passed unanimously, it affords me great pleasure in inviting delegates of all the Societies and of the principal dealers of Great Britain to a Philatelic Congress, to be held in London about the same time next year under the auspices of the Herts Philatelic Society. [Applause.]

Gentlemen, I am sorry that our Vice-President, Mr. Hayman, on account of ill-health, is not here to-day and cannot support personally this invitation, but with your kind permission I will read a letter from him which I received this morning. “I am still suffering from a bad cold and throat, and

my doctor will not let me leave town, so once more I want you to convey to the other delegates at the Congress my regret at not being able to be present, and kindly convey to them my wish that all matters they have in view will be successfully arranged. I hope they will accept the invitation of the Herts Society, and if they do so we shall do all in our power to make the next gathering an unqualified success, both from a business and a social point of view.” [Applause].

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Reichenheim has proposed a resolution. I hope some of you will second it and speak to it.

MR. G. F. H. GIBSON: Mr. Chairman,—I have the very greatest pleasure in seconding the resolution, and in doing so you will perhaps allow me to make a suggestion which I intended to make rather later in the proceedings. I am quite sure that those of us who know Mr. Reichenheim and the Herts Society will accept with the greatest pleasure the invitation that he has so kindly offered. We know that we shall be extremely well treated by Mr. Reichenheim and by his Society, and if, as seems to be the opinion, there is to be an annual Congress, I am quite sure we cannot do better than go to London. The suggestion that I was going to make was this, that we should appoint a small committee, not to deal in any way with the organization of the Congress, or with the subjects for discussion—that, of course, is to be left entirely in the hands of the Society which issues the invitation. As you have probably heard over and over again, this is only an experimental Congress. We have not got it quite into the shape we would like it to be. No decision has been come to as to the voting power of the delegates—first of all, whether there should be any vote taken at all; secondly whether each delegate should have a vote or whether each Society, no matter how many delegates it has here, should have one vote and also, what is perhaps more important whether some steps should be taken to impress upon the Societies which appoint delegates that it is expected that those delegates should attend, unless some unforeseen circumstances arise. [Hear, hear.] I do not know exactly how many delegates have been here, but I have been looking for two or three gentlemen whom I know and who are single delegates from respective Societies, and I have not seen any of them. I think it ought to be impressed upon the Societies that if they appoint delegates they at least make sure that one of them attends.

Then there is another point which has been raised by Mr. Reichenheim. He suggested that the trade should take part in the next Congress. I am quite in accord with him upon that, but, you see, no provision has

been made this time for the inclusion of any members of the trade as the trade, and I think that is one question which might very well be discussed by a small committee. If you will allow me, I will suggest that Mr. Castle—

MR. M. P. CASTLE : I think you had better leave me off. I am on so many committees. Kindly leave me off.

MR. GIBSON : I suggest Mr. Reichenheim, Mr. Peckitt, Mr. Sefi, Mr. Beckton, and a fifth.

MR. CASTLE : Mr. Gibson, I think you had better go on. Is there a representative of the Junior Society?

MR. GIBSON : I do not want to suggest two Manchester men on it. We have got Mr. Beckton on. But I will suggest that a fifth name be added.

MR. CASTLE : Mr. Bernstein.

MR. GIBSON : You get two Manchester men then. It looks as if we were pushing Manchester to the exclusion of everybody else. I suggested Mr. Beckton because he is often in London and he will be able to attend the meetings. I will put Mr. Bernstein on with the greatest pleasure if the other delegates will not think that we are trying to cram too much of Manchester down their throats.

MR. CASTLE : I do not think that.

MR. GIBSON : I am in a somewhat awkward position. I am seconding one resolution and proposing another. I think if some one else will second the first resolution I had better propose this.

THE CHAIRMAN : What are your five names?

MR. GIBSON : Mr. Reichenheim, Mr. Beckton, Mr. Peckitt, Mr. Sefi, and Mr. Bernstein.

THE CHAIRMAN : Do I understand you second Mr. Reichenheim's resolution?

MR. GIESON : I did, but I have made another one.

THE CHAIRMAN : First of all, I take it that Mr. Gibson formally seconds Mr. Reichenheim's resolution which you have heard read. I should like to hear some further expression of opinion from the delegates with regard to the advisability of having a Congress next year, and secondly in regard to the resolution that the invitation of the Herts Society be accepted.

MR. CASTLE : My brother delegate for the Royal Society suggests I should say a word. I can only say that judging from my experience of Manchester this week, I think the Congress has been a very great success, and my firm opinion is that if it is managed on sound business, straightforward, sensible lines in the future, it is capable of working a very great benefit to Philately. I most cordially support the idea of holding an annual Congress. [Hear, hear.] I am sure I

can speak for the members of my own Society when I say I cordially support the kind offer of the Herts Philatelic Society to undertake the duty of arranging the Congress next year. I think it could not possibly be in better hands. [Hear, hear.] When the speakers on behalf of the collectors and the trade in the Metropolis generally say, "We shall be extremely pleased to see all you gentlemen there," I am sure everybody connected with stamps will do everything they possibly can to render the next Congress interesting, instructive, and entertaining. We shall all carry back with us a very pleasant recollection of the first Congress this year, and I think the best form of gratitude will be to endeavour to repay the very excellent and instructive week we have passed at Manchester. I can only say that I think the Congress has done exceedingly well, and such a good example is much too good to be cast on one side. [Hear, hear.] We shall go on doing better, and I say it is a great encouragement to the Manchester people, juniors as well as seniors, that they should have taken up this question and brought it to fruition. [Applause.]

MR. J. MACGREGOR (Scottish Philatelic Society) : I cordially support the idea of holding an annual Congress. I presume the proposal is not limited to English Societies, but likewise extends to Scottish.

A DELEGATE : And Irish.

THE CHAIRMAN : Certainly.

MR. BERNSTEIN : Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—With reference to the suggestion of Mr. Reichenheim that the trade should join in the Congress, I may mention that in organizing this Congress we approached the Stamp Dealers' Protection Association and asked them for their support and also to send delegates; and Mr. Telfer, in replying told us he was quite in sympathy with the Congress, but that a large number of their members would be present as delegates of various Societies, or would be represented by delegates from various Societies, and he hardly thought it was necessary to send delegates particularly on behalf of the Stamp Dealers' Protection Association. Of course it is difficult, you see, to invite the trade unless you invite individual dealers, and I have found in organizing a thing like this it will not do to make any invidious distinctions. If you invite one dealer to represent the trade, probably the other dealers would be offended because they were not invited. So we thought it best to approach this Association. I have not the slightest doubt, however, that when the next Congress comes to be held, if it is thought desirable that the trade should be represented they would appoint from amongst themselves a delegate, and that would possibly do away with the difficulty of the question.

I had the pleasure of attending a meeting of the Herts Society when the delegates were appointed. It was put to the Society that they should invite this Congress to repeat itself (if I may say so) next year in London, and the idea was received with acclamation. I believe at the time when I was asked to make a few remarks I said that I did not think it could be in much better hands than those of the Herts Society, it being such a real live Society. I can only say again, gentlemen, I feel perfectly sure if the Herts Society do hold the next Congress it will be a Congress of great importance.

There is one idea which occurs to me with reference to the time of the year for holding the Congress. We were rather influenced this time in the date we selected by the fact that the summer time is rather an off season for stamps; and furthermore, that in the summer time, when you expose stamps under glass, they are very liable to be bleached by the sun. Therefore we chose a month when in Manchester in particular there is very little sun. We have been exceedingly fortunate. I saw an advance copy of a publication to-day which I suppose was printed about last week, or a few days ago—anyhow, before the Exhibition opened—and it gives some intelligent anticipations of the Manchester Exhibition. It said, amongst other things, that the Congress was a great success. Well, they were right there. It said also that the Exhibition was a great success. Well, that of course I leave you to judge, gentlemen. It said, further, that the attendance was so large that the doors had to be closed on several occasions. Well, we have not had to do that yet, but we might have to do so. Furthermore, it said, "No sooner had I arrived in Manchester than I found it was raining." Well, the Manchester weather has not played us any tricks. I may say the Clerk of the Weather has joined with the Postmaster-General in noting the significance of the occasion, and he has given us very fine weather.

But to return to our subject. It is a question whether February is a really good date for business men. Of course, to some of us—or to some of you gentlemen, I should rather say—it does not much matter when you have a Congress, you have always the liberty to attend; but there are others to whom a later date in the year might be more suitable, and that is something I should like to draw attention to, and which I think you may very properly discuss. Perhaps May might be a better date, and if so, if it is a better date, it is possible you might get a very much better attendance.

THE CHAIRMAN: I do not want to interrupt Mr. Bernstein, but I take it that would be one of the matters which the

committee would deal with if Mr. Gibson's suggestion is carried out.

MR. BERNSTEIN: That might be so. Another thing. One of the things that have a great influence on the date is the convenience of the site where you convene the Congress. Naturally the Society that convenes the Congress must have something to say in the matter of when it is held. But, as I believe I said last night, the decision which the Congress come to will weigh very much with the Society which hears of it, and I think if we come to some decision to-day as to which is the most suitable date, the Society convening the Congress will take that very seriously in consideration.

MR. P. C. BISHOP (*Chums* Philatelic Society): Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen, I join in the feeling of gratitude to the Herts Philatelic Society for their invitation to the Congress to be assembled in London next year; but at the same time, without desiring to utter a single syllable which would in any way savour of ingratitude to the Herts Philatelic Society, I think that the Congress is to be held in London should be welcomed to London by committee appointed by the various London Societies acting together. It should be not the Herts Society alone, but the Royal, the Herts, and the various other London Societies. We have a number of very strong Societies in London, very enthusiastic Societies, and I think if they were acting in concert they could give to the annual Congress a much stronger status than could possibly be given by one Society. I p[ermit] that with all due deference, but it seems to me that London, as a whole, should be represented in welcoming philatelists to the Congress next year.

THE CHAIRMAN: Before I proceed to put the resolution you will allow me to say that I think this Congress has met with very marked success, bearing in mind the fact that it is the initial effort in that direction and I think there is an absolutely unanimous opinion amongst the delegates—who very kindly, some of them, have come long distances to attend—that this system of having a yearly meeting amongst philatelists, once it is once begun, ought to be continued. [Hear, hear.] I have not heard a discordant note in regard to that question amongst any of the delegates; and a meeting like this, where you have thirty-five Societies represented and some forty delegates who have actually attended, coming from the far south from South Wales, from Scotland, and from Ireland, shows that at all events the holding of these Congresses is a move in the right direction. [Hear, hear.] We have before us to-day the resolution you have heard; that is, that the Congress be held ne-

year, and that the getting up of the Congress and the work required for the inauguration of that Congress be left in the hands of the Herts Philatelic Society, whose delegate here, by the instructions of that Society, has extended an invitation for the holding of one in London next year. I myself feel exceedingly pleased that the Herts Philatelic Society have taken that step. I think they are a very go-ahead Society; they are very enthusiastic, and we know, having regard to the experience of the past, that what they put their hands to do, that they will perfectly carry out. [Applause.] I should not have got up at all to have spoken on this matter had it not been for the observations made by Mr. Bishop, who seemed to think that if the Congress was to meet in London next year it ought to meet on the invitation of all Societies in London. Well, gentlemen, that, to my mind, is a very nice kind of idea, but I am afraid in practice it would not work. [Hear, hear.] I think that if these Congresses are to be successful, the success or failure should be attributable to one fixed and known centre. The Herts Society, in extending the invitation, know that the success of that Congress next year will be dependent upon them, and I have not the slightest doubt that it will be a very great success; but if you divide the responsibility and attempt to draw a committee from a large number of Societies—there are a very large number of Societies—it will be found in practice to be quite unworkable. [Hear, hear.] It is for that reason alone that in Manchester, where we have only two Societies, the Senior Society has had nothing whatever to do with the getting together and the working of this particular Congress here. The mere fact that I am the chairman is only a chapter of accidents. I was asked to occupy that position, seeing that the Congress was being held in Manchester, and that I happened to be the President of the Senior Society. The Junior Society desired to pay my Society the compliment of asking me to occupy that position; but apart from occupying that position, my Society has done nothing in regard to getting the Congress together or in connection with the inauguration of the Congress. I think it is very much better that they should not have done, and that the credit of this Congress should be given entirely to the Junior Philatelic Society, upon whose initiative it has been held.

Now, gentlemen, I will ask you to vote, having heard Mr. Reichenheim's proposal, which has been duly seconded, that the Congress of 1910 be held in London, and that the invitation of the Herts Philatelic Society be accepted.

The resolution was carried unanimously,

MR. REICHENHEIM: Gentlemen,—On behalf of my Society, and especially on behalf of my Committee and on behalf of myself, I thank you very much for the confidence you have placed in our Society; and with the help of the leading members of the other Societies, especially of the leading members of the Royal Society—I need only mention a few names like Mr. Castle, Major Evans, and Mr. Bacon—I hope that the next Congress will be in every way successful.

Gentlemen, I thank you very much indeed for your kindness, and I think, as the London members are soon starting, I shall have your permission to propose a very hearty vote of thanks to our chairman, Mr. Beckton, for presiding at the first British Philatelic Congress, and also to Mr. Darlow, who has taken the trouble of acting as Secretary. Perhaps one of you gentlemen will be good enough to second that.

MR. HUMPHREY BENNETT (Northampton Philatelic Society): I have much pleasure in seconding that.

Mr. Reichenheim put the resolution to the meeting and it was carried unanimously.

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen,—I find myself in a somewhat curious position in replying to the vote of thanks which has been proposed in such kind terms by Mr. Reichenheim. I have already explained how it is I come to occupy the position. It has given me very great pleasure. I have not had any rules laid down with regard to procedure, but in spite of that I think we have done very well. [Hear, hear.] We have not attempted to do too much, and the only resolution which up to the moment we have passed, by reason of its being the only resolution, having regard to the difficulty and complexity of other matters we have discussed, will, I think, carry more weight. If we had met together and simply done nothing except pass resolutions, many of them more or less of a negative character, this Congress would have done good. I thank you very much for the kind way in which you have expressed your thanks. I will ask Mr. Darlow to speak for himself, but perhaps Mr. Darlow's remarks will be postponed until after we have dealt with the remaining item on the programme. The distance between here and London, I think, gets less every day, but at the same time some of the delegates have to go further than London, so that they are anxious to catch the 4.10 train.

MR. GIBSON: I beg to propose that Mr. Reichenheim, Mr. Sefi, Mr. Peckitt, Mr. Bernstein, and Mr. Beckton be appointed to consider the course of procedure of the Congress, not in any way interfering with the organization of it or the subjects for discussion, but simply to discuss the question of votes, as to whether each Society should

have a vote or whether each delegate should have a vote, and various other matters connected mainly—in fact, entirely—with the procedure of the Congress, not in any way affecting the organization.

THE CHAIRMAN: I think you can make them six, because you have got five now. Then, if you have the six, four will probably always attend. I would suggest Mr. Fulcher's name.

MR. REICHENHEIM: I second that.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Gibson has suggested that a committee be appointed with the objects he has indicated, consisting of Mr. Reichenheim, Mr. Sefi, Mr. Fulcher, Mr. Peckitt, Mr. Bernstein, and myself. Will somebody second that? I shall be glad to hear any observations upon it.

MR. WAITE SANDERSON (North of England Philatelic Society): I beg to second that.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

THE CHAIRMAN: I ask Mr. Gee to open the discussion on the other subject that has been mentioned.

MR. J. STELFOX GEE (Manchester Philatelic Society): I assure you I feel very diffident in opening this subject. I would rather it had been left in the hands of older members of the Manchester Society. After all, it is a somewhat mournful subject to bring up, about deceased members. We hope that Philately will never die; in fact, I think we can safely say it never will, but unfortunately philatelists do die occasionally, and it behoves us to find some means for the disposal of their collections in the best manner. The proposal on the agenda is, "The formation of a body or committee to take in hand the disposal of a deceased collector's stamps, etc." Now what does "etcetera" mean? If he is a married man, does it take along his widow and children, or what?

If it is intended that they are to be included, we have several bachelors in the Manchester Society, and I would suggest that the job might be given to one of these bachelors, and he can take over both the stamps and the "etcetera" as a going concern. [Laughter] Lately I have had a rather unpleasant experience of the disposal of a collection. Some little time ago one of the members of the Manchester Society died. I knew his people, and they asked me to look after it for them. Well, the stamps were in a fearful mess; they were simply thrown into boxes with very little attempt at arrangement. I think at the time he was transferring to some new album, so you can tell the mess they were in. It took me, I think, six months, working almost every evening and many of the Sundays in that time, to get it in anything like ship-shape order so that I could put it up for sale anywhere. Then we got one or two dealers to look at it. I think I

offended one dealer by advising them to refuse his offer, and I think I offended the dealer who eventually bought it, because he put it to me that I had made him pay great deal higher price for it than he otherwise might have got it for; so that you see if these matters are left to one individual in a Society it is really a very onerous job. I think this formation of a committee is a step in the right direction. Since that experience I have had several people asking me for advice as to what is the best method of disposal. Well, to get out of it, I have simply told them, "Oh, send them up to Puttick's or Plumridge's or some of those people. They will split them up, take out the rarities and make special lots of those, and sell the remainder." I thought that was the best way of getting rid of them. But after all, gentlemen, that is not the best way, because you know what these auction sales are, how it depends upon the handful of gentlemen who attend them. To auction anything like a good collection it must be thoroughly well advertised, say perhaps a month ahead, to get the catalogue all over the country, perhaps to the Continent and across to the States. So that really I do not think that the plan of sending them to auction is one of the best; after all, it resolves itself into a question of protection or free trade, whether we are to allow the people to free trade in the stamps as the like or to come under the protection of the Societies. I am not here to make any proposal, but merely to open the subject and it is for you to make proposals. I was speaking the other day to a literary friend of mine, and told him what we are doing here and that this subject had to come up. I asked him if he could give me any suggestion. He said, "I think I can." Now this is what he said: "We literary men have very strong brotherhood among us and each man appoints what he terms his literary executor, and when that man shuffles off this mortal coil his literary executor goes through the whole of his papers and sees what there is that can be utilized in any shape or form, and takes the whole thing in hand." Now, could not something of this kind be done amongst us? Could not each man appoint his own philatelic executor? He might get some member in the Society who would act for him. Failing that suggestion, why not have some man appointed in each Society—either a single man or a committee?

I do not know whether there is anything I can suggest further. It only remains for any other member to bring forward suggestions. I was simply asked to open and leave it in your hands. So with the few remarks I leave it.

MR. F. F. LAMB (International Philate-

(Union): Really I have not considered the matter at all. I think it is a very good suggestion, but I do not quite see how it could be carried through. There are a great many cases where the husband does not discuss his treasures with his wife; in some cases, I think, the wife cares nothing or knows nothing of them. I think the idea of the Society might be carried through in some way. I do not know whether there would be a sufficient number of collectors, but perhaps some dealers would be good enough to form themselves into a body to attend to those duties.

MR. BERNSTEIN: Mr. Lamb is so very useful for the Society he represents that should like to step into the breach. When the projected syllabus of the Congress was submitted to the International Philatelic Union, the Secretary forwarded to me one of their syllabuses, and pointed out to me they already had a rule to the effect that a committee was formed. I believe that it was a committee, but I have had so very little time to spare that I do not think I read it quite through. I saw it was bearing on the subject, and I thought the delegate of the Society would speak upon it. A sort of committee is formed in that Society to deal with such matters.

As Mr. Lamb has remarked, most wives take very little interest in their husbands' philatelic and other treasures—[laughter]—and consequently something really is desirable in that direction. I think it might possibly lead to some result if we suggested at this Congress that every Society should take it into consideration and endeavour to form a committee amongst their members to deal with such matters. Of course we should not attempt to force it on the Societies in general. We could send out a suggestion that the Congress here assembled's opinion that a rule to that effect in every Society's syllabus is desirable, and those Societies which are up-to-date and like to carry it out would do so.

MR. GIBSON: Mr. Chairman,—I did not want to speak on this subject at all. It is one of those unfortunate subjects which appear to be very desirable, but it is very much more easy to criticize and to point out the difficulties than to offer any solution of them. In the first place, any one who is the Secretary of a Society, as I am, will know how constantly one is receiving communications from people who imagine that they have valuable collections of stamps. Hear, hear.] They send you specimens of them sometimes, or, if they can afford 1½d. or the postage, they send you the collection, and they ask you what is the value of it and what is the best way to dispose of it. Now, I think whatever committee you appoint will be troubled with a great deal of

unnecessary work. [Hear, hear.] The relatives of anybody who is a well-known collector or who is connected with a Society would know exactly what to do. They would probably go to some friend of their husband or brother—whoever it might be—who was a philatelist, and ask for his advice. The people we have to cater for in this idea are those whose deceased friend or relative was not a member of any Society and who do not know exactly where to turn; but if a committee in each Society is to be appointed, it seems to me there is going to be a good deal of rather unnecessary work put upon them; and is it quite reasonable to expect them to do this for nothing? On the other hand, I do not think if members of my own Society were appointed on a committee of this kind they would like to make any charge. Then, supposing you do appoint a committee or individual, how are you going to make it publicly known that such a committee or person has been appointed? Would it be possible to get the trade in any way to deal with the matter? I know there are fearful difficulties there, but the main difficulty to my mind is that you cannot expect people to do a lot of work of this kind voluntarily for people whom they know nothing about, and how you are going to pay them is a matter which I do not quite see.

I am afraid my remarks are not very fruitful of suggestion, but I have not dealt with the subject very much except for pointing out difficulties which I think will be obvious to many others besides myself.

MR. J. MACGREGOR (Scottish Philatelic Society): I think the principle meets with approval, but there are very great difficulties in the way. We had a case this last year, when a member died and another member of the Society was asked to look at his stamps and see how they should be disposed of. He got a portmanteau full of stamps and envelopes entirely loose. I know he worked at them for a fortnight every night, and by that time only a very small proportion of them was in any sort of order. Then the collection was taken out of his hands by some other collector, some relation, to whom the stamps were sent. I think the gentleman who made the proposal to-day mentioned a case where he was kept for upwards of six weeks. Well, the proposal is very good, but I am afraid it must be left to the friends of the deceased, when he was a member of some Society, to take some trouble on behalf of the widow in giving her advice as to what she should do, or assisting her in arranging it. Most members of a Society would do that for a deceased member.

MR. T. B. WIDDOWSON (Leicester Philatelic Society): The subject has been before

our Society once or twice, and we have tried to appoint a committee of three to deal with this question; but, of course, as Mr. Gibson says, the relatives of a member of a Society will naturally know one or other members who will take on the job for the widow in that case. I do not see that we should bother ourselves about those who are never going to pay any subscription to any Society, who are merely outsiders, else we should have an endless amount of work thrown upon our shoulders. You only want to be known as a stamp collector, and you will have hundreds of collections brought in to you. I myself have had dozens brought into my office, and I have made the rule that I never see a stamp collector in business hours; he must find me at home before he gets me to deal with his stamps. My office has been invaded several times by ladies. In one particular case I remember she called at a most inconvenient hour to get me to value her collection; and when I did happen to get to see it, a shilling would have been an exorbitant price.

There is no doubt the simplest way out of the difficulty would be if every member would appoint a philatelic executor. That, to my mind, entirely gets over the difficulty. We all have members in connection with Societies into whose hands we should not like to place our stamps for disposal. [Hear, hear.] We have known those members more than once, and the philatelic executor is the best way out of the difficulty. If any gentleman has a collection which is worth anything at all, he can surely put a clause in his will—and I presume every business man makes a will—to hand over his collection to this man who he knows will be thoroughly trustworthy, and who will act to the best of his ability for the widow and not for himself. [Applause.]

MR. J. STELFOX GEE: I should like to know, is there any legal objection?

THE CHAIRMAN: What occurs to me is this: It has been brought forward to-day, and we have had a certain amount of discussion upon it, and whether any conclusion can ultimately be arrived at I am not prepared to say; but I think you will all agree that in its present stage no general fixed resolution will meet with the approval of the delegates generally. It is a very much larger question than appears on the surface. So far I have no indication as to whether this committee, if it were formed, would be a national committee, in which case they would be called upon to give an amount of time and labour which certainly no ordinary business man, no ordinary collector, could afford to give. If you split it up and leave it to the Societies you are going not very much farther than what is happening to-day. We have heard that in the Leicester Society

and in the International Philatelic Union they have rules providing for this, which could be taken advantage of by the members of those Societies; and in other Societies where there are no such rules—if a member dies under such circumstances—and we have had instances of it given Mr. Gee mentioned a matter in point—the relatives know and have confidence in the local leaders of that Society, whose advice is never sought in vain.

I quite agree with the observation that Mr. Widdowson made. I do not see that we should trouble ourselves much about what becomes of the stamps of collectors who had not shown sufficient interest to join a single Philatelic Society. [Hear, hear.] I regard to those who had shown that interest and who were members, or had been members for some time and ceased for some particular reason, I think their relatives can always get advice by applying to the Society to which that man formerly belonged. [Hear, hear.]

Does any delegate wish to move any resolution on the subject?

MR. WIDDOWSON: To put it in form, move that the Societies be requested to advise to insert a clause to that effect, forming a committee to regulate such cases.

MR. N. CLISSOLD (Liverpool Junior Philatelic Society): I have much pleasure in seconding that motion. I think that all Philatelic Societies ought to have such a clause in their rules, and that when a member joins a Philatelic Society he should nominate, in case of his death, the committee he desired to dispose of his collection, or if he does not think it desirable for them to dispose of his collection, that they should appoint a philatelic executor.

THE CHAIRMAN: What is your resolution?

MR. WIDDOWSON: That all the Societies be advised to include a clause to the effect that a small committee be appointed to deal with deceased members' collections if desired.

THE CHAIRMAN: Might I take the resolution in this form: "That the attention of the various Philatelic Societies be called to the question of considering the advisability of incorporating with their rules some provision in regard to the disposal of the stamps of deceased members"? That would leave it absolutely to the discretion of every Society. I think that is the point.

MR. REICHENHEIM: I would add, "and requested to do so."

THE CHAIRMAN: "If requested to do so"—certainly.

MR. BERNSTEIN: That is what we want.

THE CHAIRMAN: Will that carry out your wishes, Mr. Widdowson?

MR. WIDDOWSON: Yes.

MR. N. CLISSOLD: That will suit me. The resolution was carried unanimously.

THE CHAIRMAN: I have one additional item. It will be a short matter. Mr. Palethorpe has intimated his desire to open a short discussion upon the Encyclopædia of Philatelic Literature.

MR. A. PALETHORPE: Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—I call this paper, "Wanted, an Encyclopædia of Philatelic Literature." The writer of this paper has been in correspondence for some considerable time with an experienced and well-known philatelic literaturist, and from time to time has urged upon his correspondent the need and the importance, as it seems to him, of something being done to meet the want which is felt by many earnest philatelists of some means of reference to standard works, handbooks, magazines, etc., dealing with such philatelic subjects as possess the greatest interest for them.

At the suggestion of his correspondent, he writer has reduced his notes and ventures to submit the following considerations to those who may be interested in the subject.

The present being an age of specialism, his want necessarily becomes more and more emphasized as time goes on. In the nature of things no one author possesses a monopoly of knowledge—if I may so express it—on a given subject, and although he has had much to tell and has added to the common stock of information by patient and careful research, there is still more with which he does not deal. Some authors have adopted the plan, at the end of their articles and handbooks, of giving a bibliography relating to their subjects. This plan is an excellent one—as far as it goes—but does it go far enough? I think that it does not, because in most cases the student not only does not possess the books and magazines to which the bibliography refers him, they are not even available, or for that matter inaccessible to him.

This state of things obviously requires some alteration. The wish to be thoroughly informed on one's subject is undoubtedly general amongst philatelists, and whilst it has been estimated by a well-informed philatelic weekly journal that probably there are not more than a couple of hundred serious collectors of philatelic literature in the world, it is, I believe, not to be disputed that never in the history of Philately has research been so highly developed, nor has it ever been carried on by so large and increasing a number of earnest philatelists as is the case at the present time.

This much being admitted, it follows that something should be done to make the means of reference to the best philatelic authorities much easier than it is, and to

encourage original research and general literary work as much as possible.

The remarkable growth which has been witnessed of late years in the interest taken in the literary side of Philately, the desire for more knowledge on the part of philatelists, the increasing number of publications which are being successfully issued year by year, are abundant evidence of its increasing importance.

The writer has been privileged to see several of the largest philatelic libraries of Europe and to become acquainted with their owners. Amongst these was the famous collection which was formerly the property of the late Amtsrichter Heinrich Fraenkel, of Berlin, and although there is nothing new in the statement that when it was disposed of to the Earl of Crawford, one of the distinguished patrons of this Exhibition and Congress, and sent to England, it required no less than thirty-nine large cases for its transmission, it will nevertheless be seen how great, how vast, is the field which is covered by the literature of Philately; and even this huge library was very incomplete in many directions.

Cannot something be done to reduce the area of this vast field by bringing it more within the reach of students and making it easier to cover, whilst retaining all that is best and most useful in it? I am convinced that something can be done.

The largest and the most important libraries are owned by private individuals, and these, for the most part, are of course not available for the use of students.

There are others, again, which belong to the principal Philatelic Societies, and although they are undoubtedly valuable and desirable possessions, their usefulness is of a limited order.

They are not accessible except to the few who are on the spot.

Probably the number of students living at a distance and who are members of a Society which possesses a good library—and who use the library—is not great. Usually, it may be said, the necessity for reference to some authority on the part of the student is an immediate necessity, and if he had to wait for days, or, it may be, for weeks, for the information which that authority can supply, he naturally enough loses his interest in the matter, and it is in this sense that works of reference which are in the Societies' libraries are not accessible because they are not handy, quite apart from the fact that the number of such libraries is by no means large. Something can be done, I am convinced, to meet the students' wants.

Much has been talked of and written on the subject of a Philatelic Index, but that, in my opinion, touches only the fringe of the subject; it is but the beginning of things,

and it must be admitted that so far, at least, "the mountain has brought forth a mouse."

A Philatelic Index undoubtedly has its use, and I would not for one moment say anything in disparagement of the work which has been done in that direction, but there is the same objection to it as to the bibliographical references already mentioned, even were it complete, and it is a mere dry list, insufficient for our purpose and not filling the want which has been usefully called into being.

The fact, however, of a Philatelic Index being undertaken both in Great Britain and America serves to bring into prominence the need of the means of reference to standard works, which means the proposed work would supply.

I do not think that it is at all necessary to elaborate the case in favour of the publication of what I have for the present called an Encyclopaedia of Philatelic Literature. To bring out such a work in large volumes at a high price and at irregular and long intervals would, I fear, hardly suit our purpose. If, however, it were issued by a Society or by a well-known and enterprising publisher in, say, fortnightly parts, at a popular price, it would serve its purpose well and would be sure of a hearty welcome. Another way of issuing it which, in my opinion, would ensure its success, would be in the form of handbooks, also at a popular price.

I will now endeavour to outline what I think should be the scope of the undertaking.

Each country and each subject should be given a part, or a handbook—or more—to itself, and the writings of all the authorities on their particular subjects should be consulted, and the cream of the information thus obtained given in a compact, condensed form, which could be seen at a glance. The names of all authorities should be stated, and upon matters which are the subject of controversy the student would thus have the benefit of the conclusions of the various authorities.

Dealing with the matter of countries, information relating to their History, Geography, Heraldry, etc., should be included; also their Postal System and its History, the Issues of Stamps, their Designs, descriptions of Proofs and Essays, Paper, Watermarks, Perforations, Reprints and Forgeries; and on specific subjects, such as the manufacture of Paper, Engraving and Printing, Perforating, etc., much technical information could be given.

It may be desirable to say here, that in dealing with the history of a country this subject should be "boiled down" so as to include such of the outstanding facts as would suffice to occupy a few pages, this and similar subjects of course being sub-

ordinate to the main purpose of the work and with regard to forgeries, probable minute descriptions of genuine stamps only that have been forged, would be all that would be necessary.

These are the outlines then, capable, doubtless, of being filled in more completely at the proper moment. Whether it would be possible to thoroughly consult German and French authorities for the purposes of the Encyclopaedia which the writer has ventured to suggest, it should not be difficult to say. So much good and painstaking work, however, has been done in both the German and French languages—and a not inconsiderable part of it translated into English—that if it were brought within the scope of the proposed Encyclopaedia it would undoubtedly be a material gain, and greatly increase its usefulness and both enlarge and increase its circulation.

The present, it seems to me, would be an excellent time at which to commence the work. Most of what has already been written could be overtaken, if I may express it, with comparative ease.

The rate of publication of standard works, handbooks, magazines, etc., however, increasing as it does every year by leaps and bounds, the longer the Encyclopaedia is delayed the less easy will the work become. I may be told that it presents difficulties, my answer to that is that they are such can be got over with comparative ease if the work is undertaken without delay, and that it is wanted does not admit of a doubt.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard Mr. Palethorpe's paper read. I propose to take the discussion upon it to-night.

MR. PALETHORPE: I have a few notes which have occurred to me since writing the paper.

THE CHAIRMAN: We will take those to-night.

The Congress then adjourned till the evening.

At the evening sitting Mr. W. D. Beckton presided.

THE CHAIRMAN: The printed agenda at an end. To-night's sitting was decided upon to afford an opportunity to any one who wanted to bring before the Congress any matter which was not covered by the agenda. There is one paper which Mr. Palethorpe read this afternoon, and we had no time to discuss it then. I will ask Mr. Darlow to read that paper again, and if there is any delegate present who is interested in the subject, we shall be pleased to hear his views upon it.

MR. DARLOW: read Mr. Palethorpe's paper.

MR. J. H. ABBOTT (Manchester Philatelist):

society) : I think, Mr. Chairman, there were few notes which Mr. Palethorpe said he had made.

MR. DARLOW : There is a page of supplementary notes which Mr. Palethorpe told me were written in anticipation of any objections which might be raised. I do not think it is quite fair to read them now.

MR. J. H. ABBOTT : That is quite right.

MR. T. B. WIDDOWSON (Leicester Philatelic Society) : I might say what our Society has been doing in this matter. We have been trying to form a small library to be used in connection with our Society, and we have approached the Municipal Free Library. They have granted us the use of one of the shelves in the reference department for our sole use, on the condition that we allow people to look at the books in the library; but the members of the Philatelic Society, by presenting their card of membership, are the only persons who are allowed to borrow those books and take them outside the building. We consider that is rather an advance on the general arrangement of philatelic libraries, because the majority of the Societies meet generally not more than once a fortnight, sometimes once a month, in our case. In that case you only get the librarian there at comparatively long intervals, and, if he lives a long way out of town, he cannot bring all the books up to the meeting each month. So that is the means which we intend to adopt—we have not yet completed the arrangement—for the members to have the books at any minute they want. The library of course is not large, we are only a young Society yet, but we hope to grow in time.

MR. BERNSTEIN : May I ask—Does the Corporation buy your books, or do you buy them yourselves?

MR. T. B. WIDDOWSON : We buy them ourselves. We merely loan them to the Municipal Library, and on the condition that other people can look at them; we undertake the cost of repairing them—in the way of binding.

THE CHAIRMAN : As a matter of fact, that is not at all the suggestion in the paper. The suggestion in the paper is the publication of an Encyclopaedia, which is going a great deal further than anything which has been done hitherto. The subject is large enough, I am sure.

MR. W. R. LANE JOYNT (Irish Philatelic Society) : I should have been glad if some one would have spoken in favour of this before. I speak against it because I have a few words to say as to the impossibility of the scheme.

THE CHAIRMAN : I will call upon you, Mr. Lane Joynt. So far as I can see, looking round, I am afraid we shall not

hear anybody supporting it very actively. So will you speak, Mr. Lane Joynt?

MR. LANE JOYNT : I am afraid it would be something like the Chinese Annals, which grew to something like 3900 volumes. I am afraid this scheme will necessitate quite as large a number. The argument which Mr. Palethorpe brings forward, to the effect that more and more researches come out every day, is rather opposed to the fact that as each person produces a new article on the country in which he has specialized he revises first of all the knowledge which has been already gained, and adds it to his own, and his article is the last word on the subject—the final word—so that really the longer you go on the fuller you will get the particulars of all the articles which are published. Now, if we are to have, as this gentleman suggests, an Encyclopaedia dealing with every subject under the sun connected with stamps, even forgeries, it would take an enormous amount of trouble; and who is going to pay for it, and who is going to buy it? If each volume is to be a specialist's volume, specialists will confine themselves to purchasing that one volume. I very much fear that the idea of undertaking such an enormous task is impracticable. I fail to see who will undertake it. You would want nearly all the experts on the whole of the subjects to voluntarily undertake this very heavy task.

MR. BARNEFIELD : I am not a delegate, but may I say a word or two? I am sure what Mr. Lane Joynt has said is quite correct. Nobody will buy the whole thing, and no one will provide the money to print it, but I would suggest that many good articles have been written, and volumes have been written, on various countries. Now one of these periodicals—say the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* or the Philatelic Society's paper—might issue every month extracts of various articles on countries which have been written, drawing attention to them, and add it to their journal as a supplement, say at threepence apiece. Then at the end of every three or four months there would be a register given of those articles which have been already through the press. Now we all have been general collectors, yet we all drift out and become specialists. I have found, at any rate, that the older a man gets the more he finds out he cannot be a general collector in the full sense of the word, and he specializes. Such a gentleman wants to specialize, say, India. Well, he looks at this register and he finds there is an extract of such and such a book that Mr. Hausburg has written. Mr. Hausburg, or perhaps the Philatelic Society, will allow small extracts to be taken from it as a supplement. This man reads this first, and then when he gets interested

in the country he will find the money to buy that one article or that one book. That is the only way, I fancy, we have of doing it. [Applause.]

MR. G. B. DUERST (Manchester Philatelic Society): I can only say this. Some years ago Krötzsch, of Leipzig, started publishing what were handbooks of the different States of Germany. I know the man very well. He carried it through to a certain extent. Of course, as he told me afterwards, the first books had to be entirely reissued. He stopped on account of non-support by philatelists. It did not pay. He made simply a loss. He had intended to get the best authors and the best philatelists to write up Germany, and all the other countries of Europe, if necessary, when he had finished Germany; but I do not think he had got as far as Luxemburg when he had simply to stop on account of the fact that he did not get sufficient inducement to carry it on. The cost of production was tremendous, and the number of applications or the number of buyers was very small, even in a country like Germany, where hundreds, I might say thousands, specialize their own stamps. Even there he could not make it pay. How much more will that be the case if you tackle the whole thing in the shape of handbooks for all countries. I think the subject is too large. In time, undoubtedly, we shall get handbooks for every country in the world. We have got them for the principal countries now. Of course, some of them want revising. If they appeared some years ago, they ought to be revised. I quite agree they ought to be brought up to the knowledge we have at the present day, but a good many others are really written up now fully equivalent to anything that can be said about them. If we go on, say in fifteen years, we shall have practically a good handbook for every country.

MR. J. H. ABBOTT: As other speakers have said, I think it too gigantic an enterprise for anybody to undertake. I have been thinking about the book trade, what it is today and what it has been. Some years ago they published all these novels in three volumes for 31s. 6d., then they issued them at 6s., and now you can buy the same novel for 6d., 7d., and 1s. What we want to-day is, I think, a cheaper handbook that a man can buy to-day, read it, and if there is anything fresh it can be republished in twelve or eighteen months at 6d. or 1s., and then he could put the old one aside and study the new one. We will not decry Mr. Phillips' *Fiji*, but it is not within the reach of all of us. A good many of us cannot pay a guinea—I believe that is the price of that book—but of course if it were issued without the plates in some simple form at 1s. it would be read by scores instead of the very few

that are reading it to-day. It would be the same with most of our philatelic handbooks. They are too high in price, and we want a cheaper handbook all through. I am sure Philately would benefit by cheaper editions of the various handbooks.

MR. J. H. GIBSON: I am very sorry that Mr. Fulcher is not here at this discussion because I think he would be able to throw some light upon the subject, and I feel some diffidence in stating what I am about to state. I do it with all reserve. But I believe that the policy of the new proprietors of the *Philatelic Record* is to be very much on the lines of what Mr. Barnefield suggested. They told me in some of correspondence I have had with them recently, which has been pretty extensive, that they propose each month to mention various works that have been published on any particular subject, and I believe that every quarter or every six months they propose to form a kind of index of publications of the last six months. I do not want you to take this as an actual fact, but that is my view of what Mr. Fulcher told me, certainly. They are going to carry on this journal more on literary lines. I do not mean in the quality of its articles because of course that would be impossible to beat, but they are going to devote the selves very largely to philatelic literature and to the writings upon various philatelic subjects, and I believe I have given you what to be the policy of the journal in the future.

MR. DARLOW: Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen—I must now say Ladies and Gentlemen—it is the first time we have had ladies at Congress, and I am very pleased to see them here. Well, I am very much in sympathy with Mr. Palethorpe's objects, and I believe it was because I expressed that sympathy to him that he asked me to read the paper. I quite agree that the enormous extent of subject places it absolutely beyond the range of publishers' politics. I do think that need for collaboration in an Encyclopedia of philatelic literature is known all over the philatelic world. I cannot agree with Mr. Abbott when he says that cheaper publications would supply it, for this reason, that publications without plates would not be of very much benefit to collectors. Plates, surcharges and types are of far more importance to us as collectors than the letterpress matters themselves. Still, I think they might be reduced in price, and if they were reduced in price the numbers in circulation would increase and so the cost would be decreased and I think by that means it might come to pass.

Then, again, I am very pleased to hear what Mr. Gibson has said. He has embodied in his few words a suggestion that was going to make and I will do it in some

hat a larger way than he has. I think the need for an Encyclopædia might be overcome in some measure by these means if the publishers of magazines—for instance *Tanley Gibbons Monthly Journal*, which were all sorry to see die [hear, hear]—ould issue an index of the articles on the various issues of the various countries. The publishers of the *Philatelic Record* and the publishers of the other magazines could do the same periodically—we will say at the end of every five or six years—of the whole of the matters in their volumes, just as the publishers of the *Connoisseur* are doing to-day. They are issuing an Index of the first twelve volumes, and I believe they intend to do that at the end of every periodical time. I think that by purchasing those indices we collectors would know exactly where to look for the information we want, and we should be able to get it without spending a lot of money unnecessarily, and if we could not get it from one library or another, we should be able to buy the particular volumes which we wanted. I think that the want of an Encyclopædia Philatelic might in a great measure be filled by publishers doing something of that kind. [Hear, hear.] I may say that I myself have suggested it to the publishers of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, and they put a note in some months ago at my suggestion asking for their readers' opinions, and as far as I know they ave not had a single reply.

THE CHAIRMAN : I think, gentlemen, the discussion we have had must satisfy everybody that the suggestion contained in Mr. Palethorpe's paper is one that could not be contemplated. It might be a most glorious thing if such an Encyclopædia were organized, but it would take years, in my opinion, to write an Encyclopædia framed upon the lines which he desires it to be done, because even when you take the handbooks that have been published on certain countries it would take a man a considerable time even to shorten those handbooks and condense them sufficiently, and at the same time make them explicit and present to the readers the best they contain. But when you come to deal with a large mass of countries upon which no handbooks have appeared—and in respect of several countries there are no well-known specialists who have any collection of them—I fail to see where you would turn to ave those countries dealt with upon similar lines to the other countries contained in the Encyclopædia; even if you had all your manuscript ready for the press, the cost of producing a work like this would be gigantic. He says in his paper that he wants something which would go a very great deal further han any philatelic index. Now the question of the compilation of a philatelic index of itself is a very large subject, and we have

heard that it has been dealt with, and a very excellent book indexing the articles which have appeared in the British journals is already available for collectors. I have no doubt at all that a philatelic index revised and extended so as to include the colonial and the American papers would give to collectors very much what they want. I do not agree with Mr. Palethorpe when he says that the handbooks are not accessible to the general body of collectors. In my opinion most of the important handbooks—those up to date—are available for all collectors who are members of Philatelic Societies, because if a man is a member of a Philatelic Society possessing a decent library he will be able to consult them. Most of them do possess a library, and are turning their attention to improving their libraries at the present time. That is receiving more attention at the hands of provincial Philatelic Societies to-day than ever it has done. If he is not able to attend the meetings he could always by applying to the librarian obtain the loan through the post of any particular handbook he may-wish to consult. It is, as a matter of fact, only the man who is emerging from the general collecting stage to the specialist stage who would desire to consult such an Encyclopædia as is contemplated by Mr. Palethorpe in his article. Immediately he gets so far he wants to go further and wants to really see the handbook which has been written upon this subject of the country he is interested in.

Mr. Palethorpe contemplated certain difficulties, but he expressed himself as being very sanguine that all those difficulties could be got over. I think if he were here tonight he might be in a difficulty with regard to replying to them, but I have no doubt he has anticipated some things which have been said, and I propose therefore to bring this discussion to a close by asking Mr. Darlow to read to you the reply which I understand Mr. Palethorpe has prepared anticipating some of the objections.

MR. DARLOW read the following :—

With the permission of the Congress, sir, I will read a few ideas that have occurred to me since the paper was written and which may in part anticipate or answer criticism. I should prefer this course so as the better to keep my subject properly in hand, as it is not an easy one to handle extemporaneously.

There is, I am confident, no lack of thoroughly capable philatelists who could undertake the editorship of the proposed Encyclopædia, whilst the material for it is abundant. The matter of cost I do not think would present any more difficulty than is usually associated with any other philatelic publications—in my opinion it would be less. Many works that have previously appeared have appealed to a limited class of sub-

scribers for several reasons, not the least being that of their cost, but I have not heard of any of them being a failure. Literature, too, is so much to the fore nowadays that what was a publishing difficulty five years ago, or even less, would not be one to-day.

The Encyclopædia, too, would stand in a different position entirely from any similar publication, for it would be a permanent work of reference on every philatelic subject, and as such it would appeal to all classes of philatelists—it would appeal to specialists, generalists, and to literature collectors; its circulation would be practically unlimited, for it would be as indispensable to the general body of philatelists as the catalogue is.

Moreover, the Encyclopædia would open up an outlook to our rising philatelists which has hitherto been hidden from them—it would give them a new point of view and would provide a new interest for them; and it only remains for our leaders to give them a popular lead in the direction suggested.

THE CHAIRMAN: That concludes the business of the Congress. I should like to read to you this telegram which was received from Mr. Hayman, of West Hampstead. It is addressed to "The President, Stamp Exhibition and Congress, Manchester." "Received confirmation of your acceptance of Herts invitation for 1910 Congress. We shall give you all a hearty welcome and a good time.—HAYMAN, West Hampstead."

[Applause.]

I have one other pleasant function to discharge before I declare the Congress at an

end. The Junior Philatelic Society had prepared a diploma, which is of the nature of a memento of this first Congress. They sent me to hand to the delegates who are present and ask them to take away with them their particular copies.

The diplomas were then distributed.

THE CHAIRMAN: It only remains for now to declare this Congress at an end and to express on behalf of Manchester Philately our very great appreciation of the services of those gentlemen who have come from long distances in order to attend the Philatelic Congress in Great Britain. [Applause.]

MR. W. R. LANE JOYNT: I do not think we ought to disperse without passing a vote of thanks to our chairman to-night. He has been one of the most enthusiastic supporters of this Exhibition and Congress, and I thank him all, and especially those of us who come from a distance, are very pleased with the reception we have got, and are only pleased to attend ourselves.

MR. T. W. JONES: I might second that. I have had the pleasure of knowing Beckton, and he is always very much to the fore in anything connected with Philately.

Mr. Lane Joynt put the resolution to meeting and it was carried unanimously.

THE CHAIRMAN: I thank you very much. It has been a great pleasure to me. If there is anything I can do in the future for collectors or the hobby, I shall be only pleased to do it.

The Congress then terminated.

The Exhibition Banquet

February 19, 1909

FROM all quarters we learn that the banquet was an unqualified success. Amongst those present were Major Evans, Messrs. Reichenheim, Lane Joynt, Tarrant, Crowther, Darlow, Gibson, M. Albrecht, J. R. M. Albrecht, Simpson, Pemberton, Cochrane, Leicester Paine, Floyd, Adutt, Sefi, Waite Sanderson, Field, Fulcher, Higgins, Wade, Wilson, Trechmann, Barnefield, Peckitt, Beckton, Grunewald, Duerst, Castle, Coote, Abbott, Bernstein, etc. We were sorry to have to miss the function, but are fortunate in being able to publish a chatty account from a well-known Manchester philatelist who was present, and who, we are told, made by far the best speech of the evening, though his modesty has doubtless prevented that impression being gained from his report.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

You ask me for some account of the banquet in connection with the Manchester

Congress, at which, to our great regret, business engagement prevented you from being present. I was there for the sole purpose of enjoyment, and with no idea of acting as a reporter, for which reason—let it be clearly understood, for no other my recollections of what took place are so definite as they would otherwise have been.

The banquet was held, as you know, at the Midland Hotel on Friday, February 19. The President of the Manchester Junior Philatelic Society, Mr. I. J. Bernstein, was in the chair, supported by the President and the officials of the Senior Society, and of those connected with the Juniors.

The menus were distinctly novel, being in the form of a reply post card, addressed to each guest, and posted at the Hulme Town Hall, thus bearing the special Exhibition postmark. Inside was a reproduction of a souvenir post card, faced by a list of the bounties provided for the support of the b

last a foretaste of the mental pabulum, in form of the toast list, occupied the fourth

After dinner the Chairman gave the usual toasts, describing the Prince of Wales in terms most acceptable to philatelists, as the President of the Royal Society,

then proposed the health of the Delegates. He commenced by describing himself as in a more serious plight than that of Daniel, who, even under the peculiar and trying conditions in which his name is usually associated, had lost the satisfaction of knowing that he did not have to make an after-dinner speech. The philatelic lions, however, round the room having already dined, seemed comparatively harmless, so the speaker was enabled to proceed, but I am bound to admit his next remarks as to the success of the Exhibition and Congress seemed somewhat familiar, and that some of us might have heard them before during the last day or two. But he soon reached his actual

object, and warmly welcomed the delegates from all parts of the British Isles, reminding them that this was indeed an historic occasion. I fixed his eagle eye on representatives from England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland in turn, and no doubt, though I was too far from him to see it, shed, in the fulness of his heart, a silent tear at the absence of one from the Isle of Man. (I discovered afterwards, the way, that a most tasteful card is being sent to each delegate who attended the Congress, so those who did not put in an appearance have missed an interesting souvenir, and one which may be valuable to-day.) His opening apology was wholly unnecessary, for he made a genial speech, and one could see that he meant what he said.

Mr. Castle, who responded and who I thought looked, as he said was the case, from well, claimed on that account to be entitled to even more sympathy than either Daniel or the previous speaker. He became reminiscent, not, of course, of the times in which the prophet lived, but of his own early days, when practically the nucleus of his collection was acquired in Winchester. He referred to some of his earlier visits, notably to the one at the time of the last Exhibition, to his friendship with many of the leading collectors here, and to the position which the local societies hold in the philatelic world. He pointed out a curious fact, namely, the presence in the room of so many, in addition to himself, connected with the fortunes of the *Philatelic Record*—Mr. P. L. Pemberton, a worthy representative of his eminent father; Mr. T. Wilson, Major Evans, Mr. Beckton, Mr. Fulcher, to whom the good wishes of all us in Manchester for success in his

new venture go out. I was delighted to hear such genuine expressions of satisfaction with the results of the Congress from a leading member of the premier Society, and to see from the applause which followed them how they were endorsed by the delegates present.

The next toast, the Manchester Junior Philatelic Society, was to have been proposed by Mr. W. S. Lincoln, but as at the last moment he was unable to force his way through the crowd of buyers round his stall at the Exhibition, and had communicated the fact—by Marconigram, I suppose—to the Chairman, the duty was undertaken at a moment's notice by Mr. Reichenheim. You know him so well that I need not tell you that he was, as usual, brimming over with enthusiasm and good nature, and said just what was wanted. I certainly must try to be a delegate next year, when, as you are aware, we are to meet in London. London! Mr. Reichenheim as President—but words fail me.

Then came one of the really humorous episodes of the evening: Mr. Gibson, the Hon. Secretary of the Senior Society, and one of the oldest men in the room, got up to respond for the Juniors! chosen, he said, because, in spite of his years and grey head, he has the inexperience and innocence of a child. When the mingled cheers and groans had subsided, he too became reminiscent, carrying our minds back to an evening ten years ago, when, at a similar banquet, he responded to the toast of the Executive Committee of the 1899 Exhibition, and seemed to think that in his representative capacity he had as much to be proud of now as he had then. He spoke of the advantages in large towns of a Senior and a Junior Society, the former not only being an excellent recruiting ground for the latter, but also affording scope for the administrative powers of the younger members of the Senior Society, which they would not otherwise be able to exert. In conclusion, he attributed the success of the three-year-old Junior Society to the energy and unfailing good temper of Mr. Bernstein, who, of course, as was quite right and proper, looked embarrassed and vigorously shook his head.

The health of the Chairman was given by Mr. Sefi, who was brief—probably, I think, because Mr. Gibson had wandered rather cruelly into his preserves—but to the point.

Mr. Bernstein, in reply, launched into metaphysics, saying that his Society, although really only three months old, had a "past," in the sense that it had previously existed in another shape—that of a branch. He paid a high tribute to the support received from his officials and committee, and modestly deprecated any undue meed of praise.

This was the end of the official toast list, and I hoped we should now be allowed to enjoy ourselves, but instead of that a series of impromptu speeches followed, mostly, I must admit, at the call of the guests. Major Evans set the ball rolling, and after trotting out Daniel again, told us of his very pleasant recollections of his two visits to Manchester. Certainly this time the clerk of the weather has been in his most affable mood, but if the Major came to see us more frequently he might have a different opinion of our city, though not of our welcome. Mr. W. T. Wilson seemed much affected by Mr. Castle's reference to his late partner, and gave a brief account of Mr. Pemberton (more reminiscences you will notice), alluding particularly to his philatelic interest and foresight. Several short speeches followed from Mr. Peckitt, Mr. Fulcher, and others, and then Mr. Leon Adutt proposed the toast of the Senior Society and its President.

Mr. Beckton was in his best form, and has been so all through the Congress, of which he was the Chairman, and which he managed excellently. Of course there were no lady delegates, and the gatherings have been most orderly, those present being keen on their duties. Still, it was no doubt advisable to have at the head of things some one whose profession might, in case of accident, delicately suggest 20s. or a month. He at

once explained that his Society had watched with great interest the growth of the philatelic babe, but beyond a few friendly words from time to time, had in no way interfered with its diet or education, and were entitled to no credit for the healthy and flourishing condition in which it now appeared. This fully bore out the statement of Mr. G. as to the absence of rivalry between the Societies, and ended by pointing out the value to the philatelic world of an Annual Congress.

At this point most of us had to leave. I understand that weighty matters of philatelic interest were discussed by some of the delegates staying in the hotel, assisted by one or two local enthusiasts, for a considerable time afterwards, though a rumour that these latter on their way home called at their respective offices to open the mail letters is absolutely without foundation.

I am afraid you will think that we had a somewhat frivolous gathering, but it was so. Had I known that an account would be required from me I should, of course, have made notes of all the important observations which fell from the lips of the various speakers, which would, I assure you, have filled the pages of several issues of my journal.

Yours sincerely,

A DELICATE DELEGATION

Foreign Notes

By FRANK PHILLIPS

Egyptian Official Stamps

MONSIEUR ALPHONSE PLEIMES, of Birket-el-Sab, has sent me an interesting extract from *Le Bulletin Postal Egyptian*, of which the following is a translation:—

"Concerning the franking of articles sent through the post on the service of the State."

"On and after January 1, 1909, the regulations relative to the franking of letters and other articles sent on the State's Service (i.e. those regulations contained in No. 3 of *Le Bulletin Postal*, dated January 29, 1907), will be modified as follows:—



"1. Ordinary correspondence of all kinds is to be franked with a special stamp, which will be, until further notice, the old stamp inscribed 'SERVICE DE L'ETAT.'

"2. Each article despatched, no matter what it

be, nor what its weight, is to be franked on one stamp only.

O.H.H.S.

"3. Insured packets and parcels on which the rate has up to the present been paid in cash are to be franked with the stamps 'O.H.H.S.' which are now current; stamps to be equivalent in value to the rate payable."

"4. The same 'O.H.H.S.' stamps are used to pay the rate for registration within the confines of the State, and to frank articles abroad. It is therefore intended that registered letters be provided with two kinds of stamp, i.e. 'O.H.H.S.' stamps in payment of the registration fee, and stamps inscribed 'SERVICE DE L'ETAT' to frank the letter."

"5. The rates for money orders, etc., are to be paid in cash."

One result of these new regulations is that of the stamps overprinted "O.H.H.S." only two values are now used, i.e. 1 millièmes for the inland registration fee, the 1 piastre for abroad. The 1, 2, and 5 millièmes and the 5 piastres ought certainly to appreciate in value.

charges of Nicaragua and Salvador

Revue Postale states that the two republics mentioned above have really definitely decided that no more surcharged stamps of any description shall be issued! The reason for this momentous decision is given, but it is hardly to be credited; the Philatelic Congress which took place recently at Saragossa, and those attending the meetings, passed a certain resolution with the information, in which it was stated that their great hope and desire was to see the

number of issues in some countries very much limited, and surcharges entirely done away with." Copies of this resolution were forwarded to those countries chiefly concerned, but I hardly think that the alleged desire of Nicaragua and Salvador to suppress surcharges can seriously be taken to have resulted from the motion passed by the Philatelic Congress at Saragossa. Let us hope that the report is well founded. Our happiness would be complete were Paraguay to join forces with the two republics.

New Issues and Discoveries**SUB**

"should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning new or projected stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by a sum for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome."

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Argentine.—According to the *Revista de la Unión Filatélica* the Postal Union colours, red, and blue, are to be appropriated to 3 c., 5 c., and 12 c. values. The 5 c. is already in the proper colour, and we have just seen the 3 c. in green. Doubtless the 12 c. will be issued in orange will be shortly changed to blue. We have also received two other values, 10 c. in a slate-green, and a 30 c. in dull purple, somewhat approaching the 5 c. in shade. *Cho de Timbrologie* also chronicles a 4c. mauve. The values have a poor, sad appearance, and change from the previous handsome stamps is inevitable. The colours do not seem to have been chosen with any degree of foresight, and probably some will be changed to avoid confusion. Meanwhile we chronicle:—



72

908-9. Type 72. Wmk. Type 67. Perf. 13, 13½.
183a 3 c., dull green.
183b 4 c., mauve.
186 10 c., slate-green.
191 30 c., dull claret.

Canton.—We have a further list of varieties, of which we have seen.

CANTON 州 廣

II

13-4. Type 4 of Indo-China surcharged as Type 11, in black, but Chinese characters indicate value. Varieties. (iii.) Chinese value omitted; "CANTON" inverted.

A 235a 1 (c.), black on azure.
A 235b 4 (c.), purple-brown on grey.

(iv.) Surcharge inverted.

A 235c 5 (c.), pale green.

A 235d 10 (c.), rose-red.

(v.) Chinese value above "CANTON."

A 235e 10 (c.), rose-red.

Gold Coast.—The so-called unicoloured 6d. has reached us, but it is really in two colours, in accordance with the colour scheme recently settled upon for colonial stamps. The name and value are in a much brighter shade than the rest of the stamp. It was issued December 8 last or earlier.



7

Dec., 1908. Type 7. Name and value in second colour. Wmk. Multiple Crown CA, Type w. 8. Perf. 14.

69| 6d., dull and bright purple, C.

Jaipur.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* is informed that this Indian Native State will in future use Indian stamps overprinted with name, similarly to those of Chamba and the other Convention States. The 3 pies is one value decided upon. It is a pity that, since the native stamps are to be discontinued, Jaipur could not manage with ordinary Indian stamps.

New Hebrides.—Mr. Oswald Marsh has shown us a block of the ½d. on single-watermarked paper. He says it was amongst a batch on the multiple paper, and is probably scarce in this condition. In our chronicle, January 16 (No. 211), there is an error of description that should be rectified. Only the bicoloured stamp has the broad band of colour over the word "FIJI."

ent for the day is the evil thereof," and we refrain from listing these stamps until we have seen them.

Habilitado en
5
CENTAVOS

44

No. 350 surcharged as Type 44 (but vertical space between words 11 mm.), in black.
143a|20 c. on 30 c., deep blue.

Type 39 surcharged as Type 44, in black.
Variety. (i.) Surcharge inverted.
187b|20 c. on 30 c., dull lilac.

1908

47

1909. Type 39, perf. 11½, 12, overprinted with Type 47, in black.

1 c., emerald.
5 c., yellow.
10 c., brown-purple.
20 c., orange-brown.
30 c., rose-red.

Persia.—In note after No. 396a, the Catalogue says that the 2 ch., grey, exists with the overprint, Type 42, in *blue* and *violet*. We have received stamps corresponding to this description, and in addition others overprinted in *purple* or *black*. In the parcel also were some stamps for which the "overprinter" has hardly made up his mind as to the colour. Apparently the hand-stamp has been first inked on the *blue* pad and then on the *black*, for the black overprint seems to have a *blue* background. As the *blue* above referred to is a *bright* or *violet-blue*, if this undecided overprint is described as *blue* it will probably meet the case.

No. 396a in Catalogue should be deleted. It is hardly worth its place, and a note should follow the stamps chronicled below that "some of the above are known with overprint inverted."



37



42

1904. Type 37 overprinted with Type 42, in colour given in brackets.

396a	2 ch., grey (violet).
396b	2 ch., " (purple).
396c	2 ch., " (black).
396d	2 ch., " (violet-blue).
396e	2 ch., " (blue).

Putialla.—We are informed by Mr. Babu L. Dhaun that the 3 pies King's Head stamp has been recently supplied to this State for official purposes and that 240,000 stamps have been overprinted.

SERVICE

PATIALA
STATE

24

1909. Type 4x of India overprinted with Type 24 in black.

145a| 3 pies, slate-grey.

Roumania.—We have received two more values of the 1908 set. It will be noticed they are in a different type from those that have appeared previously.



39

1908. Type 39. Perf. 11½ or 13½ or compound.

1 b.

3 b., chestnut.

St. Pierre and Miquelon.—The long-projected new issue of stamps for this French colony has at last made its appearance. The customary local colouring has been introduced by Mr. C. J. Housez, the designer, and the set has three types. The lower values, 1 c. to 20 c., portray a local fisherman—it will be remembered, the chief industry of the island is cod-fishing—the middle values, 25 c. to 75 c., show a large bird in flight, probably a seagull—these birds are generally handy to a fishing fleet—whilst the higher values, 1 fr. to 5 fr., portray a schooner, no doubt the type of boat used in the fisheries. In the lower corners of the latter values appear two codfish, treated somewhat in the classical style of dolphins. All apparently have been manufactured at the French Government Works in Paris, from which place they were put on sale about February 6.



1909. Centre, value or tablet of value in first colour; on lower values the numerals show in white.

Perf. 14 or 13½ × 14.

Type 17.

1 c., brown and orange-red.
2 c., blue and sepia.
4 c., sepia and pale violet.
5 c., olive-green and blue-green.
10 c., red and rose.
20 c., deep purple and pale brown.



18

Type 18.

25 c., blue and deep blue.
30 c., purple-brown and orange.
35 c., " sage-green and purple-brown.
40 c., sage-green and purple-brown.
45 c., " pale violet.
50 c., dull green and olive-brown.
75 c., sepia and brown.



19

Type 19.

1 fr., blue and grey-green.
2 fr., brown and pale violet.
5 fr., grey-green and purple-brown.

Surinam.—A new issue for this and the other Dutch colonies is in preparation, and according to the *Nederlandsch Tijdschrift voor Postzegelkunde* (Jan.) a new design is ready for the values up to 50 c. The present design is considered unsatisfactory because the lettering of the inscription is too small, whilst the word "FRANKEEN-ZEGELS" is recommended as a substitute for "POSTZEGEL." The latter in its strictest sense indicates any stamp issued in connection with the post, and not those limited to franking prepaid letters, as would the suggested inscription.

Meanwhile the 5 c. stamps have run short in Surinam, and a provisional supply of 52,900 has been printed locally, and was issued on January 20.

The stamps were typographed by Mr. H. B. Heijde, of Paramaribo, the local official printer, in sheets of 100, the one half of the sheet being *tête-bêche* with the other half. Apparently the clichés were set up in a block of 50 (five rows of ten), and after one-half of the sheet was printed the paper was fed into the press the other way round. The stamps are not perforated, but rouletted, probably by means of a printer's guillotine cutting-machine. The stamps are issued without gum, owing to the damp climatic conditions. We are indebted to Mr. A. J. Warren for the sight of a strip of four showing the particulars described.



14

JANUARY 20, 1909. Type 14. Rouletted 13½.
103| 5 c., red.

Variety. *Tête-bêche* (pair).
104| 5 c., red.

Switzerland.—We have received a third value in the new type, namely, a 10 c., issued about February 20. Our type number in *G.S.W.*, No. 216, should be 19, not 18.

The *Bulletin Mensuel Champion* (25.2.09)

Printed by W. BRENDON & SON, Ltd., Plymouth, for the Proprietors, STANLEY GIBBONS, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.
March 13, 1909.

chronicles the 100 c. Postage Due stamp watermarked paper.



19

Type 19. Granite paper. Wmk. Cross, Type 13.
Perf. 11½, 12.

246|10 (c.), rose-red.

Postage Due Stamps.

1909. Type 52. Figures in scarlet. Wmk. Type 13.
Perf. 11½.

342|100 (c.), olive-green.

United States.—In our issue No. 216, dated February 20, we stated that the 15 c. and \$1 had not been issued. Our New York house has now sent us specimens of these stamps. The \$1 is purplish black, and not pink as anticipated. The 50 c. has also reached us, and we do not call them lavender; it is a pale violet. Will readers please correct? The 13 c. and 50 c. are apt to be confused with the 1 c. and 3 c. respectively by artificial light, and it would not be surprising if some of the colours in the new series were short-changed.

Some errors have crept into the Catalogue, on pages 606 and 607, which should be noted, viz. Types (e) and (f), showing corner ornaments from the 1861 issue have been transposed with Types (m) and (n). Of course, the description above No. 56 makes this clear, but the error may have caused some confusion. No. 63 should be described as "3 c.", not "5 c."

We have received a small supply of the Commemorative Lincoln stamp mentioned in our issue for February 20. It will be noticed the stamp has the value in words only. A good deal of comment has been made as to the absence of Lincoln's portrait in the ordinary series, and it would not be surprising if it were introduced for one of the lower values.



114



115

DECEMBER, 1908-JANUARY, 1909. Type 114. Figures a foot. Wmk. U.S.P.S. Perf. 12.

456|15 c., ultramarine.
458|\$1, purplish black.

FEB. 12, 1909. Issue commemorative of the Centenary of the Birth of Abraham Lincoln. Type 115. Wmk. U.S.P.S. Perf. 12.

465| 2 c., rose.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 12
Whole No. 220

MARCH 20, 1909

VOL. IX.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

Grenada—continued

(Continued from page 114.)

GROUP I (c). PROVISIONALS.

FURTHER supplies of the orange and green fiscal stamps were despatched in January, 1879, and November, 1881, both being upon small Star paper, but with different perforations, the former having the 14 (Somerset House comb), and the latter the 14½ gauge of the peculiar guillotine machine.

At the end of 1882 the supply of ordinary ½d. and 1d. stamps became exhausted, and some of the penny fiscal stamps of the 1881 consignment were utilized for provisionals.

To provide the 1d. value, the word "POSTAGE" in tall black Roman capitals was overprinted horizontally on the above stamps, whilst for the ½d. it was applied twice diagonally. In the latter case both words read upwards, and the stamp was bisected between the two words and used as two ½d. stamps. This provisional is scarce, as very few were issued, it being thought that the overprint was too large, and another overprint was then prepared. This time the word was without a stop and smaller, and though still applied twice diagonally, the two words on the stamp are reversed as regards each other, one (the upper) reading upwards, while the other reads downwards.



POSTAGE
POSTAGE

Jan., 1883. Fiscal stamps overprinted in black.

Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.

1d., orange and green 60 0 10 0

A. Horizontally.

Oct., 1886. Fiscal stamps surcharged in black.

Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.

1d. on 1½d., orange and green	. 5	0	6	0
1d. on 4d. " "	. 20	0	10	0
1d. on 1s. " "	. 6	0	6	0

In March, 1888, the stock of 4d. postage stamps having run out, some sheets of the 2s. fiscal stamps, which had been despatched to the colony in 1881, were surcharged. As in the case of the last provisionals, the sheets were divided in half horizontally and



	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
B. Diagonally twice, (½), half of 1d., orange and green .	— 100	0
C. Up and down as above, (½), half of 1d., orange and green .	160	0
	60	0

In 1883, Messrs. De La Rue and Co. sent out a supply of postage stamps of a new design, which will be dealt with in the next group.

In October, 1886, the 1d. stamps of this design became exhausted, and recourse was again had to surcharged fiscal stamps. In this case, some of the 1½d. and 1s. stamps sent out in 1875, and some of the 4d. from the consignment of January, 1879, were used; the former were, as previously stated, on large Star paper, and the latter on small Star, all being perforated 14 at Somerset House.

The sheets of fiscales were divided in two horizontally, and the provisionals were printed in half-sheets of sixty arranged in five rows of twelve stamps each.

Type 18.

25 c., blue and deep blue.
30 c., purple-brown and orange.
35 c., sage-green and purple-brown.
40 c., sage-green and purple-brown.
45 c., pale violet.
50 c., dull green and olive-brown.
75 c., sepia and brown.



19

Type 19.

1 fr., blue and grey-green.
2 fr., brown and pale violet.
5 fr., grey-green and purple-brown.

Surinam.—A new issue for this and the other Dutch colonies is in preparation, and according to the *Nederlandsch Tijdschrift voor Postzegelkunde* (Jan.) a new design is ready for the values up to 50 c. The present design is considered unsatisfactory because the lettering of the inscription is too small, whilst the word "FRANKEENZEGELS" is recommended as a substitute for "POSTZEGEL." The latter in its strictest sense indicates any stamp issued in connection with the post, and not those limited to franking prepaid letters, as would the suggested inscription.

Meanwhile the 5 c. stamps have run short in Surinam, and a provisional supply of 52,900 has been printed locally, and was issued on January 20.

The stamps were typographed by Mr. H. B. Heijde, of Paramaribo, the local official printer, in sheets of 100, the one half of the sheet being tête-bêche with the other half. Apparently the clichés were set up in a block of 50 (five rows of ten), and after one-half of the sheet was printed the paper was fed into the press the other way round. The stamps are not perforated, but rouletted, probably by means of a printer's guillotine cutting-machine. The stamps are issued without gum, owing to the damp climatic conditions. We are indebted to Mr. A. J. Warren for the sight of a strip of four showing the particulars described.



14

JANUARY 20, 1909. Type 14. Rouletted 13½.

103| 5 c., red.

Variety. Tête-bêche (pair).

104| 5 c., red.

Switzerland.—We have received a third value in the new type, namely, a 10 c., issued about February 20. Our type number in *G.S.W.*, No. 216, should be 19, not 18.

The *Bulletin Mensuel Champion* (25.2.09)

Printed by W. BRENDON & SON, Ltd., Plymouth, for the Proprietors, STANLEY GIBBONS, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.
March 13, 1909.

chronicles the 100 c. Postage Due stamp on watermarked paper.



19

Type 19. Granite paper. Wmk. Cross, Type 13.
Perf. 11½, 12.

246|10 (c.), rose-red.

Postage Due Stamps.

1909. Type 52. Figures in scarlet. Wmk. Type 13.

Perf. 11½.

342|100 (c.), olive-green.

United States.—In our issue No. 216, dated February 20, we stated that the 15 c. and \$1 had not been issued. Our New York house has now sent us specimens of these stamps. The \$1 is purplish black, and not pink as anticipated. The 50 c. has also reached us, and we do not call this lavender; it is a pale violet. Will readers please correct? The 13 c. and 50 c. are apt to be confused with the 1 c. and 3 c. respectively by artificial light, and it would not be surprising if some of the colours in the new series were shortly changed.

Some errors have crept into the Catalogue, on pages 606 and 607, which should be noted, viz. Types (e) and (f), showing corner ornaments of the 1861 issue have been transposed with Types (m) and (n). Of course, the description above No. 56 makes this clear, but the error may have caused some confusion. No. 63 should be described as "3 c.", not "5 c."

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114



115

DECEMBER, 1908—JANUARY, 1909. Type 114. Figures at foot. Wmk. U.S.P.S. Perf. 12.

456|15 c., ultramarine.

458|\$1, purplish black.

FEB. 12, 1909. Issue commemorative of the Centenary of the Birth of Abraham Lincoln. Type 115. Wmk. U.S.P.S. Perf. 12.

465| 2 c., rose.

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Grenada—continued

(Continued from page 114.)

GROUP I (c). PROVISIONALS.

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At the end of 1882 the supply of ordinary ½*d*. and 1*d*. stamps became exhausted, and some of the penny fiscal stamps of the 1881 consignment were utilized for provisionals.

To provide the 1*d*. value, the word "POSTAGE" in tall black Roman capitals was overprinted horizontally on the above stamps, whilst for the ½*d*. it was applied twice diagonally. In the latter case both words read upwards, and the stamp was bisected between the two words and used as two ½*d*. stamps. This provisional is scarce, as very few were issued, it being thought that the overprint was too large, and another overprint was then prepared. This time the word was without a stop and smaller, and though still applied twice diagonally, the two words on the stamp are reversed as regards each other, one (the upper) reading upwards, while the other reads downwards.

	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
B. Diagonally twice. (½), half of 1 <i>d</i> ., orange and green .	—	100 0
C. Up and down as above. (½), half of 1 <i>d</i> ., orange and green .	160 0	60 0

In 1883, Messrs. De La Rue and Co. sent out a supply of postage stamps of a new design, which will be dealt with in the next group.

In October, 1886, the 1*d*. stamps of this design became exhausted, and recourse was again had to surcharged fiscal stamps. In this case, some of the 1½*d*. and 1*s*. stamps sent out in 1875, and some of the 4*d*. from the consignment of January, 1879, were used; the former were, as previously stated, on large Star paper, and the latter on small Star, all being perforated 14 at Somerset House.

The sheets of fiscales were divided in two horizontally, and the provisionals were printed in half-sheets of sixty arranged in five rows of twelve stamps each.



Oct., 1886. Fiscal stamps surcharged in black.

	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
1 <i>d</i> . on 1½ <i>d</i> ., orange and green .	5 0	6 0
1 <i>d</i> . on 4 <i>d</i> ., " "	20 0	10 0
1 <i>d</i> . on 1 <i>s</i> . , " "	6 0	6 0

In March, 1888, the stock of 4*d*. postage stamps having run out, some sheets of the 2*s*. fiscal stamps, which had been despatched to the colony in 1881, were surcharged. As in the case of the last provisionals, the sheets were divided in half horizontally and



POSTAGE

Jan., 1883. Fiscal stamps overprinted in black.

Unused. Used
s. d. s. d.

A. Horizontally.
1*d*., orange and green 60 0 10 0

overprinted with a setting of sixty of the postal surcharges. There were two settings used, varying as regards the space between "4d." and "POSTAGE," and there is one prominent variety, viz. an *upright* instead of an *italic* "d."

Similar stamps were used for a provisional ½d. when this denomination gave out in December, 1889. The surcharge in this case was entirely in words; it is said that the whole issue was exhausted in six days.

HALF
PENNY 4d.
POSTAGE POSTAGE

March, 1888-Dec. 1889. *Fiscal stamps surcharged in black.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d. on 2s., orange and green	. 4 0	4 0
4d. on 2s. "	. 2 0	2 6

In May, 1889; a provisional 1d. *fiscal* stamp was required, and this was obtained by surcharging the same 2s. stamps as were used for the above issue. The surcharge was in black, and consisted of "d." in a vertical line above the word "REVENUE" in Roman capitals.

When in December, 1890, the stock of 1d. postage stamps was again exhausted, some sheets of this provisional were further overprinted with the words "POSTAGE AND." The positions of the words were intended to be as follows:—"POSTAGE" above the "d," and "AND" between the "d" and "1" of "1d."; but the overprinting was not too carefully done, and the position varies considerably on different specimens.



Dec., 1890. *Provisional fiscal stamps overprinted in black.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1d. on 2s., orange and green	. 6 0	—

The stock of provisional fiscal stamps of the preceding issue having all been used up, and a further supply of 1d. postage stamps being required, some sheets of the same 2s. stamps were freshly surcharged. The half-

sheets were overprinted, like the preceding issues, in settings of sixty, and various small differences due to broken or defective type may be found.

**POSTAGE
AND
REVENUE**
1d

Jan., 1891. *Fiscal stamp surcharged in black.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1d. on 2s., orange and green	. 10 0	—

This was the last issue of the Perkins Bacon type for postal purposes, and all other stamps for Grenada have been manufactured by Messrs. De La Rue and Co.

GROUP II.

De La Rue Printings

As mentioned in the history of the last group, Messrs. De La Rue and Co. sent out a supply of stamps in 1883. The stamps of this issue were engraved and surface-printed on paper watermarked "Crown and C A" in sheets of 240, divided into four panes of sixty stamps arranged in ten horizontal rows and perforated 14 by a comb machine. A curious feature of this issue is that alternate rows of the panes are inverted, thus forming a series of vertical *tête-bêche* pairs. The central part of the stamp was separately engraved from the inscriptions, and the latter may be found varying slightly in position. The values are given at the foot of the stamp in words, except on the 2½d. value, on which it is inscribed "2½ PENCE." The month when the respective values were issued is given in brackets.



ONE PENNY

1883. *Wmk. Crown C A. Perf. 14.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d., dull green (Feb.)	. 0 2	0 2
1d., rose (,,)	. 3 0	0 8
2½d., ultramarine (May)	. 1 0	0 3
4d., greyish slate (,,)	. 1 0	1 0
6d., mauve (,,)	. 1 9	3 0
8d., grey-brown (Feb.)	. 5 0	5 0
1s., pale violet (April)	. 30 0	20 0

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Stock Books, and are, therefore, the Prices at which Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., will have pleasure in supplying any of the stamps that may be needed by any of our readers.

Topical Notes

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

Retirement of Mr. Wilmot Corfield

I AM sorry to hear that the Philatelic Society of India has lost the services of one of its most popular officials—Mr. Wilmot Corfield having recently retired from the position of Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Secretary which he has held, I think, for some eleven or twelve years, with the exception of two intervals when he visited this country. Mr. Corfield has done an immense amount of work for his Society, and he now feels that he has earned a rest.

I trust, however, that, from time to time, Mr. Corfield will favour my readers with letters on matters of philatelic interest from India.

The Spanish Error of 1851. 2 reales, blue
THIS is one of the most famous stamps and also one of the greatest rarities. It was caused by a *cliché* of the 2 reales having got mixed up with the 6 reales of the 1851 issue. The error was quickly discovered and remedied, and I only know of three specimens of the genuine stamp, now in collections.

Of these one is in a vertical pair, one stamp being 6 r., the other the error, 2 r., and the other two are single specimens; all these are used.

Some years ago one used to meet with some 2 reales in blue, in unused state; these were on thin paper, and in the wrong shade of blue, and I have no doubt that they were only trials of colour.

In the collection of Mr. Robert Reid, now being dispersed at auction, a copy of this stamp was catalogued. The auctioneers were good enough to let me have the stamp for examination, and on reference to the enlarged photographs of the genuine and forged stamps of 2 reales in our "Reprint and Forgery" collection, I found at once that this was a specimen of the dangerous forgery, either printed in blue, or more probably changed in colour from dull red to blue. The *design* of the stamp is wrong in several important details. I also submitted this important stamp to Monsieur Pierre Mahé and Mr. E. D. Bacon, both of whom agree with me.

It seems best to put these facts on record as a warning to collectors that such a dangerous fake of one of the greatest rarities is in existence.

The fakers no doubt made more than one copy, which probably are considered to be gems in other collections.

Our Stamp Albums Explosion-proof

WE receive a good many testimonials of our various albums, but the following from a client at Turffontein, Transvaal, is the first certificate we have ever had that our albums and mounts will stand a big explosion.

Mr. G. B. writes in January, 1909:—

"I have one of your Improved albums and must say I am greatly pleased with same. I have had it now for close on four years and it is in perfect order. I may also mention that, when I was in Buluwayo, we had a very big explosion about a hundred yards from our house, and at the time everything was scattered about. The album was thrown about sixty yards on the veldt and I thought I had lost it, but I came across it again, not at all damaged, and none of the stamps were missing owing to my using your excellent mounts, with which I am also very pleased."

Record Prices for Medals

MESSRS. GLENDINING & CO., LTD. (7 Argyll Street, Oxford Circus, London, W.), secured some record prices for medals, etc., at their sale on February 18 and 19 last.

Among the best things sold were [the following of special interest:—

L. s. d.

Defence of Khartoum, silver gilt star, presented by General Gordon. Fine and scarce	5 10 0
British South Africa Co.'s medal for Rhodesia, 1896, with bar for Mashonaland 1897; and Boer War medal, two bars—Cape Colony, Wittebergen (Trooper H. M. Richard, 4th Imperial Yeomanry). Very fine and rare variety of bar of which few were issued	5 5 0
The Victoria Cross awarded to Bugler Robert Hawthorne (52nd Regi- ment), for conspicuous gallantry at the blowing up of Kashmere Gate, Delhi, September 14, 1857	108 0 0

Bugler Hawthorne not only most bravely performed the dangerous duty on which he was employed, but previously attached himself to Lieutenant Salkeld, R.E., when dangerously wounded, bound up his wounds under a heavy musketry fire, and had him removed without further injury.

For this deed of conspicuous gallantry, pronounced to be "as noble as any that ever graced the annals of war," he received the Victoria Cross.

Indian Mutiny medal, one bar—Delhi,
granted to the family of Sergt.

A. B. Carmichael, Bengal Sappers and Miners, who lost his life on the occasion of the blowing up of Kashmere Gate, Delhi, September 14, 1857	£ s. d.
Naval Gold Medal for the Battle of the Nile, inscribed "Davidge Gould, Esquire, Captain of H.M.S. <i>The Audacious</i> , on the 1st of August, 1798. The French Fleet Defeated." In gold frame, glazed, with riband and gold buckle, of the highest rarity	14 0 0
Admiral Sir Davidge Gould entered the Navy in May, 1772, on board H.M.S. <i>Alarm</i> , as a volunteer, promoted Midshipman May 7, 1779, Captain 1782; Rear-Admiral October 2, 1807; Vice-Admiral July 31, 1810; K.C.B., 1815; G.C.B., 1833.	255 0 0
A valuable jewelled badge of the Order of the Indian Empire. The centre a medallion in gold of Queen Victoria, surrounded by the motto "Imperatricis Auspiciis," on blue enamel, the whole jewelled with diamonds, emeralds and rubies of the finest quality. An extremely rare decoration	70 0 0
Chinese Order of the Crystal Button, a silver medallion with centre, conferred for military services	4 15 0
The Royal Albert medal, second class, presented by Queen Victoria for gallantry in saving life on land, in original case. Fine and rare	50 0 0
A silver-mounted oak box, inscribed on silver plaques, "St. Vincent, Nile, Copenhagen, Trafalgar, N and coronet. Lost to his Country, October 21, 1805, A.Et, 47." Inside lid, gold plaque, inscribed "This wood once contained his sacred remains"	15 15 0

An interesting Nelson relic. In fine condition.

Stamp Exhibition in Newcastle-on-Tyne

THE North of England Philatelic Society, which numbers upwards of seventy members, is going to hold an Exhibition of the World's Postage Stamps in the Academy of Arts, Blackett Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on Friday and Saturday, the 26th and 27th of this month. As this is the first Exhibition to be held in the North of England, the members of this young Society are to be complimented on their venture. Many of the exhibitors at the late Manchester Exhibition have signified their intention of exhibiting. The Society is offering three silver and twelve bronze medals for competition along with other prizes. The junior members of Philately are voted a class to themselves, viz. Class 12, Collection in Album, the sole property of any collector in Northumberland and Durham under sixteen years of

age. The Exhibition is to be opened by the Lord Mayor of the city, Alderman J. J. Forster.

All particulars may be obtained from Mr. Robert W. Wilkinson, Exhibition Secretary, 1 Evelyn Terrace, Gateshead.

Description of New Stock Books arranged and priced recently

Egypt and Sudan.

BOTH these countries are always in good demand and we find great difficulty in securing stock to refill our new books.

The Egypt are a fairly good lot, but the Sudan are not so complete; the latter country has been priced by our 1909 Catalogue which is now in the press.

Great Britain, unused.

This is a very good book and contains a very large number of fine unused stamps. Amongst others I note as follows:—

1d., black, 25 copies, most with gum.

1d., red-brown on white, four unused.

1d., "Archer" roulette, two with gum.

1d. and 2d., 1854-57, Small and Large Crown, perf. 16 and 14, are a fine lot and include a number of good shades.

½d. and 1d. and 2d. plate numbers, a very choice lot the best we have had for some years. In these stamps we have been able to quote a number much under Catalogue (some are reduced from 2s. 6d. to 9d. each) owing to a recent large purchase of these stamps.

6d. and 1s., oct., some choice shades.

4d., Small and Middle Garter, some brilliant copies, including two of the scarce 4d. "Medium Garter" on blue.

The plate numbers of all values are well represented and there are a number of imperf. stamps, including some of the abnormal plate numbers.

In the later issues there is an exceptionally fine lot of the "control letters," as we have included a nice collection of these that we recently purchased.

This is one of the best books of unused British stamps that we have had for some time past.

Persia.

Two very complete stock books of these good-selling stamps have just been rearranged. We have made some large purchases in Persian stamps at very advantageous prices, and a great many stamps are priced much lower than the quotations in the 1909 Catalogue.

All orders will be executed at the reduced rates.

Hawti.

This book is pretty complete and a number of errors and varieties that are not catalogued are included. Here, also, there are a considerable number of reductions in prices.

Some Notes on the Later Printings of New Zealand Pictorials

By R. ANTHROBUS

ALTHOUGH recent issues of New Zealand stamps have been the subject of considerable criticism, there can be no gainsaying that the pictorial series is philatelically one of the most interesting of modern issues to study and collect. The great charm of early-issue collecting lies in the fact that it is a study of the evolution of stamp production. It is difficult to find an interest of this description in modern issues, but such an interest is undoubtedly present in the series under discussion. No one can gainsay the enormous advance in stamp production on the part of the New Zealand Post Office, if a comparison is made between a block of the earliest locally printed penny "Universal" stamps and one of the most recently printed sixpenny or one shilling stamps.

In view of the acknowledged and, as I think, somewhat unjust hostility of several philatelists in high places to the series in question, I have felt it necessary to write these few words of introductory apology; and even though what follows may not be of universal interest, it may, I venture to think, appeal to the small but undoubtedly group of collectors who study these stamps.

Before going further I propose giving a list of sheet numbers issued in 1908 which have come to my notice. I do this in the hope that some valuable additions may be made either by collectors or by dealers who have studied, however slightly, these stamps. These sheet numbers are of great importance in determining the various printings, and of the numbers given below, blocks in nearly every case are in my possession. My authority for the few exceptions is taken from *Ewer's Weekly Stamp News*, which is, I believe, the only journal to have published any details of the description.

Finally, I would point out that where I possess sheet numbers belonging probably to the same printing, I have only quoted the highest and lowest numbers of the batch.

Sheet Number.			
1677659	1d.	(?) Royle Waterlow Plates.	
1976626 } 1976910 }	1½d.	latest printing.	
2127865	6d.	reduced size, perf. 14.	
2162057 } 2163982 }	3d.	" " "	
2162861	2d.	old shade (?)	
2220660	8d.	perf. 14.	
2275288 } 2275320 }	2d.	new shade (a).	

Sheet Number.			
2362594 }	1d.	perf. 14.	
2376376 *			
2366153 }	3d.	14 × 13½.	
2368327 }	1s.	" "	
2369710	½d.	" "	
2421935 }	6d.	14.	
2464968 }	½d.	14 × 13½.	
2509610	1d.	14	
2527975 }	½d.	14 × 15.	
2530152 }	6d.	14.	
2536428	½d.	14	
2623180 }	6d.	14 × 15.	
2623200 }	1d.	14.	
2669352	½d.	14 × 15.	
2692834 }	1d.	14. (b) (?), new plate.	
2771819 }	½d.	14 × 15.	
2811044	½d.	14 × 15.	

* ? 2366376.—ED. G.S.W.

There must of course be several omissions from the list. During the period in question there were probably two printings of the fourpenny (worn plate), *a* perf. 14, *b* perf. 14 × 13½. Room must also be found for the 6d. 14 × 13½. This stamp seems to be very scarce, the reason being, possibly, that most of the printing was surcharged "Official." Other notable omissions are 3d. perf. 14 × 15 and 1s. perf. 14 × 15. I do not think there have been new printings of the 2½d., 5d., 9d., or 5s. values, although quite possibly there has been one of the 2s.

The second printing of the 2d.—that marked (*a*) in the list—is in an entirely distinct colour, a bright reddish aniline mauve, and the stamps of this printing are so clear in impression and design that quite possibly they are the products of a new plate.

It seems not improbable that the Waterlow and Royle plates of the 1d. have been superseded. Quite recently I acquired a full sheet of the 1d. value with sheet number 2692834, which I have marked (*b*) in the list. There was no inscription upon the margins, but a figure 4 had been scratched on the plate in the centre of the bottom margin and appeared in reverse on the sheet. This is, I believe, a reversion to the old process, as sheets from the original Waterlow plates of the ½d. green and 2d. mauve are found with similar figures, 1, 2, 3, 4, in centre of bottom margins.

It has been stated in several papers, although nowhere authoritatively, that the new 3d., 6d., and 1s. plates are supplied by Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co. If this is so, the new ½d. plates must also have been supplied by the same firm. Plate numbers,

obviously from an identical source, are to be found on the top left-hand corner margins of the sheets, the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. value being printed from Plates 1, 2, 3, 4, the 6d. from Plates 5 and 6, the 3d. from Plate 7, and the 1s. from Plate 8. The $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 3d., and 6d. occur perf. $14 \times 14\frac{1}{2}$, and all values are found perf. $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$ and 14×15 . With regard to the halfpenny I think it is a mistake to suppose that these stamps can be identified by the dot between, as the dot is frequently invisible, not necessarily because it is absent, but probably because it does not always print.

The comb machines are another point of interest. It seems extraordinary that a small printing of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. should have been some time during 1906, with a machine gauging $14 \times 14\frac{1}{2}$, and that one should have heard absolutely nothing about this machine since. The only explanation to be suggested is that this particular machine may have been lent to the authorities for experimental purposes. Then again, it would seem that for the present, at any rate, the third machine, gauging 14×15 , has entirely ousted the second, gauging $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$. The latter, of course, may have proved unsatisfactory, but we are told that both machines were supplied by one firm as being identical, in which case one may reasonably expect indiscriminate use of either machine, and consequently fresh supplies perf. $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$.

It may be noted with regard to the stamps perf. $14 \times 14\frac{1}{2}$, that the 1d. stamp is from the plate with dot.* If the new plates of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d.,

* We have been told that these stamps were from the Waterlow or Royle plates *without* dot. The writer of the article certainly has a pair *with* dot. Do both varieties exist in this perf.? Can any reader inform us authoritatively whether Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co. have really supplied the plate mentioned in the next sentence?—Ed. G.S.W.

3d., 6d., and 1s. values with dot are produced by Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co. one would have expected this 1d. plate to have come from the same source.

The plates of several values are evidently becoming very worn, and we may expect shortly either new plates or new designs for the 4d., 5d., and 8d. values. Presumably, also, the designs of several values, i.e. the 1d., 6d., 1s., and 5s., will be modified to conform with the Postal Union's requirement that figures of value must appear on the stamps. One could wish that in the case of some of these values the New Zealand authorities would, following the example of the Canadian Post Office, present us with a line-engraved portrait of His Majesty. By taking the crowned head of King Edward which is represented on some of the current Indian coins, Messrs. Perkins Bacon could not fail to give us a handsome stamp.

The vagaries of the Waterlow perforations may have puzzled some collectors. The information has been given me, as coming from an official source, that only one machine is used, but that the stamps are perforated while the paper is still wet, any differences of gauge being accountable to the fact of the paper drying unequally.

Finally, it may interest specialists of New Zealand stamps to know that mixed perforations date further back than the local pictorial. I have seen a block of six 1d. rose 1882 type, officially mended and with mixed perforation of 10 and $12\frac{1}{2}$. Can our anti-pictorial propagandists dismiss these also as Post Office speculations in their usual summary fashion?

The Postage Stamps of Belgium—contd.

By CH. DE BONT

(Continued from page 118.)

ISSUE OF JULY 1, 1884.

The 1 centime, grey.

THIS stamp was issued under the authorization of a Ministerial Decree of June 9, 1884, and of a Special Order, dated June 10, of which the following is an extract:—

“ Posts.

Issue of New
Postage Stamps.

No. 78/70.

SPECIAL ORDER.

June 10, 1884.

“ . . . The type of the 10 centimes postage stamp given below is to be adhered to, but the colours will be changed.

“ A grey one centime stamp will be issued on July 1 next, at the same time as a post card bearing a revised inscription.

(ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.)

“ It is absolutely forbidden to begin to sell these values before the dates determined above.

“ All offices are to endeavour to use up their stock of the old stamps, but persons asking specially for the new ones are to be supplied with them.

“ If necessary, a supplementary requisition may be sent in for these last-mentioned stamps.

“ The Director-General,

“(Signed) VINCENT.”

The grey 1 centime stamp was produced in a large number of printings, the last of these being dated February, 1893. The total quantity printed was 224,700,000.

The following are the better-known shades, arranged in the order in which they were printed:—

Grey, deep grey, pale grey, yellowish grey, black-grey, slate-grey, pearl-grey.

During several months in 1888 the printing of this stamp in *grey* was suspended, to allow of a quantity of *reseda* ink being used up.

In 1888, during the months of April, May, and June, the stamp was coated on the back with dextrine,* but so many complaints were received from the public that the use of this substance was given up, the following Special Order relating to its use being issued :—

“ Administration of
POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

Postage Stamps.

Post Office No. 101. SPECIAL ORDER.
Telegraphs No. 801. August 4, 1888.

“ In order to effect economies the Administration has tried the experiment of using *Dextrine* instead of Senegal Gum, on the back of those postage stamps most in demand. The 1 and 10 centime stamps issued by the Department of Stamps during the months of April, May, and June last are gummed with dextrine. Complaints having been received from the general public that this substance is not sufficiently adhesive, and moreover has an unpleasant taste, the Administration has ceased to make use of it, and has decided to call in all sheets of stamps gummed with dextrine now on hand at all post offices. These sheets can be distinguished in the following way. The adhesive coating made from dextrine is yellower in appearance, thicker, and has a more shiny surface than that made from gum; the former also has an unpleasant taste. Further, dextrine absorbs damp to a far greater degree than does the Senegal Gum; sheets of stamps coated with dextrine will be found to have stuck so tightly together that they cannot be separated without injury.

“ The exchange of such sheets for others coated with pure gum will be proceeded with at once, as far as is possible from the present stock in hand at the Department of Stamps.

“ The Director-General The Director-General
“ of Telegraphs, of Posts,
“ (Signed) DELARGE. (Signed) STASSIN.”

Varieties.

As in the *reseda*-coloured stamp, the following varieties are found on the 1 centime, *grey* :—

- (i.) Imperf. (*pale grey* and *slate-grey* shades).
- (ii.) “ BELGIQUE” instead of “ BELGIQUE.”
- (iii.) “ DELGIQUE” “ ”
- (iv.) “ BELGIQUE” “ ”
- (v.) “ CENTIMF” “ “ CENTIME.”
- (vi.) “ CENTIMI” “ ”
- (vii.) Stars below the label. ”
- (viii.) Defective impression of whole stamp.

* *Dextrine* is the name given to a substance, or mixture of substances, obtained as an intermediate product in the conversion of starch into dextrose. It is produced by heating starch to about 210 degrees C., or on treating it with dilute acids or infusion of malt. It is a colourless, amorphous substance, soluble in water, and is largely used as a cheap substitute for gum. It is also produced in the manufacture of beer, by a process of fermentation of the barley grain.—TRANS.

The stars in variety (vii.) were caused by the plate being worn by lumps in the paper used for printing.

The 5 centimes, green.



This stamp was issued in December, 1884; several printings took place, making an aggregate of 108,480,000 copies.

The following Special Order referring to the sale of these new stamps was issued :—

“ Administration of
POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

The 5 centime postage stamp.

New colour. SPECIAL ORDER.
No. 142/127/29. October 28, 1884.

“ In compliance with the Ministerial Decree of August 29, 1883, by which the present colour of the 5 centime postage stamp is ordered to be abandoned and replaced by *green*, the next supplies sent out by the department will include a certain quantity of those stamps printed in *green*.

“ The new stamps are not to be sold until any existing stock in the colour now in use has been exhausted.

“ The Director-General,
“ (Signed) VINCHENT.”

The design of the 5 centime stamp was not affected, only the colour was changed, according to certain recommendations adopted by the International Postal Union.

The earlier printings of this stamp were in *deep green*, and others in *yellow-green*, *pale green*, *emerald-green*, *pale blue-green*, and *deep blue-green*.

The latter printings were very poor, and showed many defects, which were chiefly due to the wearing of the plates and the poor quality of paper. In some cases defects have been noticed in the inscription, such as :—

- “ BEIGIQUE,” instead of “ BELGIQUE.”
- or “ BELGIGUE” ” ”
- or “ B LGIQUE” ” ”
- or “ CENTIMÉS” ” “ CENTIMES.”

There are also other kinds of varieties, such as *imperforate* copies, and copies with the *background composed of vertical lines*.

Nearly all these errors are due to defects in the paper, in which were hard lumps, which rapidly wore away the plates.

(To be continued.) i

The Provisional Stamps of Peru during the Chilian Occupation

Translated from *L'Echo de Timbrologie*, by NORMAN THORNTON

[NOTE.—Readers are recommended to compare the lists given in this article with those in our publishers' Catalogue, which differ in several respects. Whilst believing the latter to be correct, we have hesitated to alter the lists given in a translated article, but in many cases attention has been drawn to these discrepancies.—ED. G.S.W.]

QUARTER of a century ago the Peruvian postal service was not in the state it is to-day. Already, some time before the war of 1879 between Chili and Peru and the occupation of Peru by the Chilian troops, the public had been in the habit of availing themselves of all opportunities that offered of having their correspondence conveyed without troubling the post. It was not until after the declaration of peace and towards the end of 1884 that this state of affairs, which was not caused by the high postal tariff, came to an end, through measures taken by the postal administration to protect its interest as regards the carrying of correspondence by private enterprises. In order to arrive at a satisfactory result, the postal staff were instructed to take all requisite measures necessary for preventing contraventions of the postal regulations and the active intervention of the authorities was invoked to suppress known contraventions. These measures had for consequence the issue of numerous provisionals in certain post offices in Peru, stamps which were employed during the period between 1881 and 1885, the issue of which had a happy influence upon the postal receipts.

Before undertaking the interesting study of these provisional issues, it would be well to give our readers some little-known details on the postal arrangements in Peru during the Chilian occupation.

Although the Chilian troops entered Lima on January 17, 1881, the post offices in this town and in Callao, which was occupied shortly after, none the less continued their service until November 30 of the same year. General Saavedra, the Chilian commander, who occupied the capital after his victory at the battle of Miraflores, hastened to assure the chief of the municipality that he would put no obstacle in the way of the resumption of the railway and postal services. Acting on this pronouncement, the Director of Posts had no hesitation, in the interests of

commerce, in allowing the post offices to continue their operations until further notice. The offices of Lima and Callao therefore remained open until November 30, 1881; from December 1, 1881, the Chilian military post occupied the postal buildings and carried on business until October 23, 1883. It may therefore be said that during this period the Peruvian postal service was entirely suppressed at Lima and Callao, the two most important centres of postal transactions in Peru.

On commencing operations, the Chilians first of all, from December 1, 1881, for franking correspondence from the two occupied towns, and also from those subsequently taken, used certain Peruvian stamps of the 1874-9 issue with the arms of Chili overprinted in various colours. The different varieties were as follows :—



1 c., orange, overprint blue.	
1 c. ,	inverted.
2 c., violet	black.
2 c., lilac	"
2 c. ,	inverted.
2 c., carmine	"
2 c. ,	inverted.
5 c., blue	red.
5 c. ,	inverted.
5 c., ultramarine	"
5 c. ,	inverted.
10 c., green	"
10 c. ,	double.
20 c., carmine	blue.
20 c. ,	black.
20 c. ,	inverted.

In January, 1882, the Chilian troops having taken possession of Paita, the last port of the northern portion of the Republic of Peru, which since the occupation had been considered the only Peruvian office in a condition to act as Exchange office with other countries of the Postal Union, the Chilian military posts put into use in Lima, Callao, Paita, Iquique Pisagua, Pisco, Yca, Mollendo,

Eten, Sallaverey, and Tallar, certain Chilian stamps which were cancelled by the obliterating stamps which had been in use in the offices in these occupied districts. They are of some rarity, and can only be distinguished from those used in Chili by the obliterations.

The list is as follows :—

1 c., grey-black ; 1 c., green ; 2 c., orange ; 2 c., rose ; 5 c., carmine ; 5 c., blue ; 10 c., blue ; 20 c., green ; 50 c., violet.

These were the only Chilian values used in Peru during the occupation, and it is an error to think that other values were put into use.

NOTE.—This list is given in Gibbons, under Peru, Nos. 8-86, but our publishers also include 5 c., lake, Type 11, and 10 c., orange, Type 14, as well as a fiscal stamp, 2 c., brown.

The military post soon saw that its stock of Chili stamps would be insufficient to frank all the postal matter during the occupation, and in order to continue exchange transactions with other countries after the occupation of the port of Paita, the stamps of Peru, which had already been overprinted with the Chilian arms, were subjected to a second overprint, in black, in the form of a horseshoe, with the inscription : "UNION POSTAL UNIVERSAL, PERU." However, the 2 c., violet, and the 10 c., green, did not receive this second overprint, there being sufficient Chilian stamps of those values to last until the cessation of hostilities.



The values with the two overprints are as follows :—

1 c., green, arms in red.	
2 c., blue	"
50 c., rose	" blue.
50 c., "	" black.
1 sol, blue	" red.

A number of varieties are known, as :—

Arms inverted :—

1 c., green, arms in red.	
5 c., blue	" "
50 c., rose	" blue.
50 c., "	" black.
1 sol, blue	" red.

Arms double :—

1 c., green, arms in red.	
5 c., blue	" "
1 sol	" "

Horseshoe inverted :—

1 sol, blue, arms in red.	
1 sol, blue, arms in red.	

Both overprints inverted :—

1 sol, blue, arms in red.	
1 sol, blue, arms in red.	

Without arms :—

50 c., rose, arms in blue.	
1 sol, blue	" red.

NOTE.—These are numbered 94 to 96c in our publishers' Catalogue, which list, however, varies slightly in the varieties given.

(To be continued.)

Shanghai—concluded

Notes on the 1890-93 Issues

By BERTRAM W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 123.)

THE 15 CENTS VALUE.

I HAVE seen so few copies of the 15 c., blue, on either the unwatermarked or watermarked paper that I have only been able to identify two types with certainty. I think there is little doubt, however, that there are five types, and that these were arranged on the stone in the same manner as shown in the first diagram for the 2 cents. The two types I can vouch for are :—

TYPE I.—There are numerous small coloured lines in the label containing "CENTS" and over the letters "AL" of "LOCAL." There are coloured dots on the "G" of "SHANGHAI," another appears on the line below the "O" of "POST," and another is shown outside the lower frame line near the left-hand end.

TYPE II.—There is a flaw on the ornamentation in the centre of the left border. There is a coloured dot on the line under and to the left of the "P" of "POST," and another appears outside the right frame line, about $5\frac{1}{2}$ mm. from the top.

The second stone.—A new stone was prepared when the change of colour from blue to violet took place. This was composed of ten vertical strips of five types arranged as before. The five types are as follows :—

TYPE I.—There is an uncoloured flaw on the cross-bar of the "N" of "CENTS."

TYPE II.—There is a minute coloured dot between the "NT" of "CENTS" and another on the top serif of the "C" of "LOCAL." The top of the first "L" in "LOCAL" is not quite straight.

TYPE III.—There is a coloured line across the white frame of the shield, on the right.

TYPE IV.—A large flaw obliterates most of the tail of the dragon on the left and also the outline of the adjoining part of the shield. There is also a small uncoloured flaw before the "N" of "SHANGHAI."

TYPE V.—The line under "CENTS" is broken under the "I" of that word, and under the same letter a short coloured line is shown.

The following flaws occur on every sheet:—

No. 4.—The coloured circular line is broken under the "CA" of "LOCAL."

No. 23.—There is a flaw on the "I" of "SHANGHAI."

No. 37.—Most of the first upright stroke of the "N" of "CENTS" is missing.

No. 41.—There is a flaw on the "S" of "SHANGHAI."

THE 20 CENTS VALUE.

I have seen none of the 20 c., violet, on the unwatermarked paper, and only a limited number of the variety with the "Kung-pu" watermark. From these, however, I think it is evident that the sheets were composed of ten vertical strips of five types, arranged as before. I have been able to identify three of the types, which are as follows:—

TYPE I.—The third and fourth Chinese characters under the shield are joined by a coloured flaw, which extends downwards to the "P" of "POST."

TYPE II.—There is a coloured dot below the right-hand half of the shield, and another appears at the end of the dragon's tail on the right.

TYPE III.—There is a short coloured line between the "CE" of "CENTS" attached to the line below, and a short uncoloured line projects from the back of the "G" of "SHANGHAI." There is a "kink" in the base of the circle around the numerals in the lower right-hand corner.

The second stone.—A second stone was prepared when the colour of the 20 c. was changed from mauve to brown, and this was also, I believe, composed of ten vertical strips of five types. I have, however, seen no large blocks, and only sufficient singles to identify four of the types with certainty. These four types are:—

TYPE I.—A coloured line extends from the nose of the dragon on the left right through the "N" of "SHANGHAI," and the second upright stroke of the "N" of "CENTS" is joined to the line below.

TYPE II.—Has a coloured line from the

end of the dragon's nose as in Type I, but the "N" of "CENTS" is quite normal.

TYPE III.—There is a minute coloured dot on the upright stroke of the first "L" of "LOCAL," and another upon the white line above the "G" of "SHANGHAI."

TYPE IV.—There is a large uncoloured dot before the numerals in the left lower corner.

It will thus be seen from the above notes that these issues of Shanghai offer plenty of scope for the specialist. In many cases owing to lack of material, I have been unable to do more than point to the likelihood of certain varieties existing. But given enough stamps for comparison, I have no doubt the collector of Shanghai will find it a difficult task to identify those types. I have been unable to describe, and it is beyond me to say whether or not other stones or printings were made which have not come under my notice.

SYNOPSIS.

THE 2 CENTS.

First stone (5 types).

2 c., brown; no wmk.; perf. 15.

Second stone (10 types).

2 c., brown; wmk. "Kung-pu"; perf. 12.

2 c., green , , , ,

Third stone (10 types).

2 c., brown on buff; wmk. "Kung-pu"; perf. 12.

THE 5 CENTS.

First stone (5 types).

5 c., rose; no wmk.; perf. 15.

5 c., rose on buff; no wmk.; perf. 15.

Second stone (10 types).

5 c., rose; wmk. "Kung-pu"; perf. 12.

5 c., vermilion; wmk. "Kung-pu"; perf. 12.

THE 10 CENTS.

First stone (5 types).

10 c., black; no wmk.; perf. 15.

10 c., , wmk. "Kung-pu"; perf. 15.

Second stone (5 types).

10 c., orange; wmk. "Kung-pu"; perf. 12.

THE 15 CENTS.

First stone (5 types).

15 c., blue; no wmk.; perf. 15.

15 c., , wmk. "Kung-pu"; perf. 15.

15 c., blue on buff; wmk. "Kung-pu"; perf. 15.

Second stone (5 types).

15 c., violet; wmk. "Kung-pu"; perf. 12.

THE 20 CENTS.

First stone (5 types).

20 c., violet; no wmk.; perf. 15.

20 c., reddish mauve; wmk. "Kung-pu"; perf. 15.

Second stone (5 types).

20 c., brown; wmk. "Kung-pu"; perf. 12.

Notes from Bermuda

A SEVERE illness, lasting over some three months, ended by my being ordered south to recuperate, and, as I had been to Jamaica in 1908, I decided to try Bermuda, and duly arrived at St. George's February 13. St. George's is a quaint old town. I spent an enjoyable day with Mr. V. O. Brown, the postmaster. In the afternoon we drove some twelve miles over the most perfect roads I have seen since I was in

is probably one of the most up-to-date colonial post offices, enjoying lock boxes, American distributing racks, etc., all very up-to-date and perfect. The stamps on sale are as follows: $\frac{1}{4}$ d., multiple; $\frac{1}{2}$ d., all green; 1d., all red; 2d., bicolour multiple; $2\frac{1}{2}$ d., bicolour multiple (a large stock of these will delay the appearance of the "all blue" for some time); 3d., bicolour single; 4d., Queen; 6d., violet, Queen, CC, $12\frac{1}{2} \times 14$; 1s., brown,



Cuba, and arriving at Hamilton, the capital, about three o'clock, we booked ourselves at the Hamilton Hotel, and promptly started off in brilliant sunshine to find the post office. This building appears like a little lodge to the large Colonial Office building behind it. Luckily I had an introduction to Mr. Tucker, the Postmaster-General of Bermuda, and he very kindly appointed a morning for an extended interview, which we greatly enjoyed. Mr. Tucker showed me the official collection, now sadly in need of arrangement. It is most interesting to note that the rare Bermudan surcharges were missing! but the issues sent through the Postal Union were well worth inspection, especially so as many of them were very rare *reprints* of the original stamps. The Bermudan Post Office

Queen. The 1s., green, CC, had been on sale until quite recently, but they have all been sold out to local speculators, who advertise them at three shillings each.

Through the kindness of a local friend I was introduced to the Hon. R. Gray, Attorney-General, who very kindly invited me to tea on Sunday afternoon, and showed me his collection of British Colonials, which is by far the best in the island, the star piece being a block of four Bermuda 1d., overprinted "THREE PENCE" in fancy type; this is a rare piece. There were but sixty of this stamp ever printed. Diligent search failed to turn up any stamps to amount to anything, so after spending two weeks in sunshine I am about to turn north to blizzards and storms and work!

EUSTACE B. POWER.

Foreign Notes

By W. P. B.

Belgium

M R. CH. DE BONT sends early advice of an impending change in the manufacture of stamps for this country which should prove interesting to collectors.

"The administration of Posts and Telegraphs as well as that of the State Railways has just decided upon a new, fairly thick, yellowish-white paper for the manufacture of postage, telegraph and parcel post stamps. The paper weighs exactly 57 grammes per square metre as against the 32 grammes of the old paper, which was thin, slightly laid and rather bluish in shade.

"The change will in some measure constitute a new issue, since the paper will be nearly double as thick and the impressions doubtless quite different, for if the same inks as at present in use are to be continued, poor printing will certainly result, for the inks are not at all suitable to the thick paper.

"A new value, viz. 40 c., will shortly be issued, it having become necessary owing to the modification of the postal tariff consequent on changes agreed upon at the last congress in Rome.

"The question of holding a Philatelic Exhibition at Brussels in 1910 is being discussed, but nothing is yet definitely decided."

The First Step towards the Making of a Postage Stamp

WALLIS ISLES

THE following extract from *The Australian Philatelist* (11.1.09) certainly suggests possibilities.

"We have been shown by one of our readers an envelope bearing the following inscription in three lines: Protectorate des Isles, Wallis et Futuna, Resident de France. The envelope bore two New Caledonia stamps of the value of 5 c. and 20 c., and they were postmarked with the following in a circle: PR. AT FRANÇAIS, 29 AUG., 08, WALLIS. The letter reached Sydney on the 18th September. There are no whites in the district other than the Resident. The question arises, will the whites bring postage stamps or will postage stamps bring the whites?"

The Wallis Archipelago lies north-east of Fiji, with an area of 40 square miles and about 4500 inhabitants. The islands were placed under the French protectorate in 1887. It is in regular communication with Noumea.

Portugal

MANY preliminary puffs have been published as to a new issue for Portugal and Colonies, but it has not materialized at present. The political journals have stated that after

1st February the anniversary of the assassination of King Carlos and the Crown Prince, the new issue will be put into course. King Manuel, in uniform, is to figure on the new stamps.

Mr. J. N. Marsden, of Lisbon, however, writes that the last proofs of the stamps did not meet with the approval of the King. The matrix has therefore to be remade, and it is probable the new stamps will not be issued before August next.

French Offices in China

L'Echo de Timbrologie (31.1.09) says that the office of Tchongking is to be closed. This step was to have been taken some years ago; in fact, definite statements appeared to this effect. Unfortunately the news proved untrue. May the present announcement have more foundation in fact, and if it is the beginning of the end of all these French offices, so much the better.

According to several foreign contemporaries collectors should be wary in their purchases of the 1906 sets. Some of the values are very scarce, and to try to satisfy the demand recourse has been had to reprinting. A large number of stamps have been overprinted with the various town names, etc., but it is said that these reprints are easily discernible.

On the earlier overprints (which will thus appreciate still more in value) the ink is thick and glossy, especially the red, whilst in the later efforts it is thin, smudgy and grey as regards the black and inclined to vermilion for the red.

Russian Offices in China

Le Postillon says that in some of the above offices the supply of Russian stamps with special typographed overprint ran short and as a makeshift ordinary Russian stamps were handstamped in violet. The overprint approximates nearly to the typographed one and has been seen on the 5, 15, 20, 25, 50, and 70 kop., 1 r., 1 r. 50 k., and 7 r. on vertically laid paper, and on the 50 and 70 kop. and 1 r. horizontally laid. The stamps have obliterations dated between 1905 and the middle of 1906. The supposition is these were used particularly in the province of Amur, situated a long way from the headquarters of supply.

There seems too much supposition about the whole matter. How were these ordinary Russian stamps procured? It would have been as easy to obtain the properly overprinted stamps. Until reliable particulars are known collectors had better accept such stamps with great reserve.

Foreign Offices in Turkey

YOUNG Turkey is very anxious that all the above should be suppressed, but until affairs have attained greater stability in this kingdom the hope is vain. The latest proposition, according to *Rivista del Francobollo*, is that the foreign Powers interested should consent to the amalgamation of the present twenty-one offices into one central international bureau. This would be an important step towards the final goal of complete postal autonomy.

Italy seems determined to "make hay while the sun shines," as witness the batch of new sets chronicled under New Issues in this number.

New Issues and Discoveries

By SUB

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Australian Commonwealth.—In *G.S.W.*, No. 201, we chronicled the 5s in a new type, saying it was on Crown and double-lined A paper. We have now seen the stamp (which is illustrated below), and the watermark is the single-lined A. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (6.3.09) chronicles the 1s. of the same series (issued 25.1.09 or earlier), so to make our Catalogue correct the two stamps are listed together. Several journals mention that the 2s., 10s., and 20s. are shortly to be issued, but "as there is a quantity of old types on hand which will probably last some time," these values can hardly be expected yet.



6

1908-9. Type 6. Chalk-surfaced paper. Wmk. Crown and single-lined A, Type 3. Perf. 11½, 12 compound with 11. 165| 1s., emerald-green.
167| 5s. "

Brazil.—We have been shown a used copy of the 300 r., Type 36, surcharged 500 r., perf. 11, 11½, which is not catalogued; we therefore list.



1899. Type 36 surcharged as Type 49, in magenta.
(b) Perf. 11, 11½.
290a|500 r. on 300 r., slate.

Indian High Values

THE following extract from *The Englishman* (Calcutta) explains the reason of the recent issue:—

"To meet the convenience of the public the Government of India have sanctioned the introduction of new postage stamps of the value of Rs. 25, Rs. 15 and Rs. 10. The stamps are intended, principally, for the purpose of paying the charges on telegrams of high value, but they may also be used for the payment of postal charges. The new stamps of Rs. 15 and Rs. 10 value will be available very shortly at all important post and telegraph offices, and stamps of Rs. 25 value are expected from England within a few months. Service postage stamps of the value of Rs. 25, Rs. 15, Rs. 10, Rs. 5 and Rs. 2 will also be introduced."



101

1908. Type 10. (a) Perf. 13.
469| ½ c., orange.

Crete.—We have received some more varieties of the "ΕΛΛΑΣ" overprint not yet chronicled, which are duly listed below. With regard to the double overprints, these have apparently occurred through the forme set up for overprinting the ordinary small-sized stamps being used for stamps of a different size. Thus on the 2 dr., which is an upright stamp taller than the ordinary stamp, but of the same width, the variety consists of one overprint at the top and one at the foot, whereas on the 25 l. and 3 dr. stamps, wider than the ordinary stamp, but of the same height, there are three overprints to two stamps, the extra overprint generally falling on one stamp, though occasionally printing partly on both stamps.

To the values which we have seen in pairs, one with and one without overprint, must be added

POSTAGE DUE. 10 l. and 50 l.

These overprinted stamps must have been very popular or supplies were small, for at the commencement of January all the 1 l., 2 l., and 5 dr. were exhausted. Fresh supplies were ordered from Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson, and Co., which we believe are now on the way. It remains to be seen whether these are of a new

type or the same as before, with overprinting done in London. Meanwhile recourse was had to provisionals. The first was put into use January 20, and consisted of a 20 l. Postage Due stamp already overprinted "ΕΛΛΑΣ," surcharged "2" and the word "ΠΡΟΣΩΡΙΝΟΝ." It is said that only 1000 stamps were so treated, and that they were all sold out in four hours. On January 31 another 2 on 20 l. Postage Due stamp was issued, but the whole overprint in this case was new (see illustration 36 below). At the same time the 1 l. Postage Due and the 1 l. fiscal stamps were overprinted similarly to this provisional, but without surcharge of new value, whilst early in February the 5 on 20 l., orange (No. 99), was similarly treated.

L'Echo de la Timbrologie (28.2.09) says that a 5 on 20 l., rose, has also been issued, but the particulars are vague, so we do not list this till we have seen it.

ΕΛΛΑΣ

34

SEPTEMBER, 1908. Stamps of Crete overprinted with Type 34, in black.

Varieties. (i.) "Σ" inverted, reading "ΕΛΛΑΣ."
145 [19] 20 l., blue-green.
(iv.) Overprint reading "ΕΛΛΑΣ."
178 [31] 25 l., black and blue.
(viii.) "Σ" omitted, reading "ΕΛΛΑ."
193 [22] 1 dr., sepia and carmine.
193a [11] 2 dr., brown.
(ix.) Overprint inverted.
197a [11] 2 dr., brown.
197b [23] 3 dr., black and orange.
(x.) Overprint double.
198 [31] 25 l., black and blue.
199a [23] 3 dr., orange.

POSTAGE DUE STAMPS.

(viii.) As above.
243 5 l., red.

ΕΛΛΑΣ

2.

2

ΠΡΟΣΩΡΙΝΟΝ

35

ΠΡΟΣΩΡΙΝΟΝ

36

JANUARY 20, 1909. Postage Due stamps, Type 35, surcharged in black.

A. Already overprinted "ΕΛΛΑΣ," Type 34, surcharged with Type 35.
2 l. on 20 l., red.
B. Surcharged with Type 36.
2 l. on 20 l., red.

ΕΛΛΑΣ

ΠΡΟΣΩΡΙΝΟΝ

37

JAN.-FEB., 1909. Various stamps overprinted with Type 37, in black.

1 l., olive-yellow (No. 94).
5 on 20 l., orange (No. 99).
1 l., red (No. 101).

India (C.E.F.).—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (6.3.09) says that a correspondent sends the information that the 1 a., Postage and Revenue type, has been issued overprinted for use at the British military post offices in China.



54

1909. Type 54 overprinted "C.E.F." in black.
613 1 a., carmine.

Italian P.O.'s in the Turkish Empire.—There have been considerable disgust and discussion in the philatelic Press concerning the recent issues in some of these offices, and now collectors have again some cause for lament. Whether with the object of preventing local speculation or some other equally worthy motive is not yet revealed, but no less than eight distinct sets have made their appearance. They have apparently been overprinted at Turin, as they are identical except as regards the name of the office. Surely one, or at the most two sets (one for Albania and one for the Levant) would have done equally well. The stamps surcharged are those current in Italy, viz. Types 37, 38, 36, 39, 40, and 34.

1909. Stamps of Italy, 1901-8, surcharged in black.

I. LEVANT.

Constantinopoli
10 Para 10

86

As Type 86, for use at Constantinople.

1c para on 5 c., green.
20 ,,, on 10 c., rose.
30 ,,, on 15 c., slate.
1 pias. on 25 c., blue.
2 ,,, on 50 c., mauve.
4 ,,, on 1 l., brown and green.
20 ,,, on 5 l., rose and blue.

Gerusalemme 10 Para 10

87

As Type 87, for use at Jerusalem.

10 para on 5 c., green.
20 ,,, on 10 c., rose.
30 ,,, on 15 c., slate.
1 pias. on 25 c., blue.
2 ,,, on 50 c., mauve.
4 ,,, on 1 l., brown and green.
20 ,,, on 5 l., rose and blue.

Surcharged similarly to Type 87, but with name "SALONICO," for use at Salonica.

10 para on 5 c., green.
20 ,,, on 10 c., rose.
30 ,,, on 15 c., slate.
1 pias. on 25 c., blue.
2 ,,, on 50 c., mauve.
4 ,,, on 1 l., brown and green.
20 ,,, on 5 l., rose and blue.

Smyrne
10 Para 10

89

As Type 89, for use at Smyrna.

- 10 para on 5 c., green.
- 20 „ on 10 c., rose.
- 30 „ on 15 c., slate.
- 1 piast. on 25 c., blue.
- 2 „ on 50 c., mauve.
- 4 „ on 1 l., brown and green.
- 20 „ on 5 l., rose and blue.

2. ALBANIA.

Durazzo
10 Para 10

102

As Type 102, for use at Durazzo.

- 10 para on 5 c., green.
- 20 „ on 10 c., rose.
- 30 „ on 15 c., slate.
- 1 piast. on 25 c., blue.
- 2 „ on 50 c., mauve.
- 4 „ on 1 l., brown and green.
- 20 „ on 5 l., rose and blue.

Janina
10 Para 10

103

As Type 103. For use at Janina.

- 10 para on 5 c., green.
- 20 „ on 10 c., rose.
- 30 „ on 15 c., slate.
- 1 piast. on 25 c., blue.
- 2 „ on 50 c., mauve.
- 4 „ on 1 l., brown and green.
- 20 „ on 5 l., rose and blue.

Scutari
di Albania
10 Para 10

104

As Type 104. For use at Scutari.

- 10 para on 5 c., green.
- 20 „ on 10 c., rose.
- 30 „ on 15 c., slate.
- 1 piast. on 25 c., blue.
- 2 „ on 50 c., mauve.
- 4 „ on 1 l., brown and green.
- 20 „ on 5 l., rose and blue.

Valona
10 Para 10

105

As Type 105. For use at Valona.

- 10 para on 5 c., green.
- 20 „ on 10 c., rose.
- 30 „ on 15 c., slate.
- 1 piast. on 25 c., blue.
- 2 „ on 50 c., mauve.
- 4 „ on 1 l., brown and green.
- 20 „ on 5 l., rose and blue.

New Zealand.—Referring to the chronicle in *G. S. W.* (13.2.09) of the new 1d. overprinted "OFFICIAL," our publishers have now received some of the stamps without overprint. The description already given is fairly accurate, but it should be noted the stamps are watermarked with the single-lined NZ and Star, Type 41, and not unwatermarked, as suggested before. The paper is chalk-surfaced.

The following description of the differences between the new and the old penny, taken from *The Australian Philatelist* (11.1.09), should prove instructive:—

"The rosettes in the upper corners are very much altered, the shading on the drapery of the central figure is vertical instead of diagonal, while the lines on the geographical globe are diagonal instead of vertical. The words 'UNIVERSAL POSTAGE' are slightly smaller, while the turret of the ship in the background is totally different. The waves close to the bow have almost disappeared in the redrawn type. The scroll-work round the sides of the new type is very much heavier and more distinct."

The same journal reports that the 6d., reduced size, perf. 14×13, 13½, has been overprinted for official use.

We hear also the 3d., reduced size, has been brought into official use, but await definite particulars.



42a

1908. Type 42a. Chalk-surfaced paper.

Perf. 14×15 (comb machine).

32½ 1d., carmine.

OFFICIAL STAMP.

1908. Type 44 overprinted with Type 83 vertically upwards, in black. Perf. 14×13, 13½ (comb machine).

65½ 6d., pink.

Panama.—We have received a new 2½ c. stamp for this republic, the first of a new series printed by the American Bank Note Co. It will be noticed it differs materially from the old type. Other values are to be put into use as soon as the previous issue is all exhausted. We have received a new 10 c. overprinted for use in the "Canal Zone" which was issued about January 19, but it has not yet been put into course without overprint.

Mekeel's Weekly (20.2.09) reports the discovery of the old 1 c. with centre inverted; some values are already catalogued thus.

According to some of our contemporaries, a special set of Postage Due stamps is to be issued shortly for the "Canal Zone."



58

1906. Type 50. Perf. 12.

Variety. Centre inverted.

32½ 1c., black and green.

1909. Type 58. Perf. 12.

32½ 2½ c., red.

CANAL ZONE.

JANUARY, 1909. Type 59. Centre in first colour. Overprinted with Type 106, reading down, in black.

10 c., black and violet.



59

Roumania.—In our chronicle last week the colour of the new 1 b. was omitted. It should have read "black."

Correspondence

Indians Used Abroad

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

DEAR SIR,—Since the appearance of my article last July, entitled "The Land of the Lion and Sun" (Persia), I have found the 1900 issue of India, Queen's Head, 2 annas, mauve, bearing Persian postmarks.

As I gave a list of the Indians used in Persia, you might be kind enough to publish above for the benefit of philatelists who collect British stamps used abroad.

Yours, etc.,

W.M. WARD.

Printing of Canadian Stamps

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

DEAR SIR,—One is apt to overlook the closer examination of common stamps such as the 1 and 2 cent Canadian, Nos. 139 and 140 of Catalogue, but a peculiar lightness of shade made me look more closely into the printing of these beautiful specimens of the engraver's and printer's art. It appears to me as if there were two printings in each of these stamps to get the effect, as under a very strong glass there seems to be a very light ground printing, more noticeable in the 1 cent, green, in which the high lights have been picked out, so as to give the effect, in the second printing from the die, of more depth. Such high lights as those on the ermine collar appear to be almost if not quite white, while the stamp seems to be printed on a pale shade of green paper, but if the back of a stamp be laid along the tinted margin, it will be at once seen that the paper is really white. As I have not my album handy, I do not know if these presumed two printings extend to other values, but some of the stamps received by last mail seem of a much lighter shade than those in use less recently.

Yours faithfully,

E. H.

LONDON, E.C.

A "Secret" Mark on the "C.R." Stamps of Fiji

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

DEAR SIR,—I had been engaged in going over my few stamps of Fiji with the excellent handbook written by Mr. C. J. Phillips,* when I noticed that on the lower portion of the 1d. and 3d. "C.R." stamps of 1871 there were two

* *The Postage Stamps, etc., of the Fiji Islands.* By Charles J. Phillips. Published October, 1908.

No. 1522. Paper cover. Price 2*s.*; post free, 2*s.* 4*d.*; abroad, 2*s.* 7*d.*
No. 1523. Half red morocco. Price 3*s.*; post free, 3*s.* 5*d.*; abroad, 3*s.* 10*d.*

small coloured letters "W" on each side, in the foliated ornaments. On the 1d. stamp these letters are quite distinct and well defined, but they are not so apparent on the 3d., especially on the right-hand side. On the 6d. of the same issue I have been unable to discover any trace of a "secret" mark.

I hardly think that these small letters "W" should be called secret marks, or even countermarks; more probably they are the initial of the engraver. By the way, these letters must also occur on the surcharged stamps and on the "V. R." issue, seeing that Mr. Phillips in his handbook explained that the latter stamps were printed from the same dies as the "C. R.'s," the letter "C" having been converted into "V."

However, Mr. Phillips informs us (page 22) that the "C. R." stamps were ordered from "Messrs E. Grenville and Co., stationers and printers brokers, in Sydney," and that the ordering was entrusted to the Government Printer and Inspector of Stamps, a Mr. Thomas Richards. He adds "Mr. A. Jackson, a wood-engraver and electrotyper, was temporarily engaged, and designed engraved on wood, and made the electrotype from which the stamps were printed."

What, then, is the meaning of the "W's"? I personally, have not the slightest doubt, in the case of the 1d. at all events, but that the marks really are "W's," and not merely ornaments, casually resembling those letters.

In that most interesting work *The History of the Post Office, etc.* (Sydney, 1890), Dr. Andrew Houison gives a list of the engravers who made the dies, etc., of the New South Wales stamps from 1838 to 1890. But in that list the only engraver whose initials are "W. W." is Mr. W. Wilson, who is mentioned only as the engraver of the embossed wrapper of 1838. Seeing that from 1838 to 1871 thirty-three years had elapsed, it is questionable whether Mr. Wilson was still at work at the latter date. In fact, on page 27 of his book, Dr. Houison states that "Mr. Wilson was an engraver of some note at that time (1838), and who did a great deal of work for the Government."

We may conclude that Mr. A. Jackson only did the electrotyping, and that the engraver was some one else.

In Mr. Phillips's handbook the letters "W W" are plainly visible on Plate XIV, Nos. 3 and 4, illustrating the artist's proofs. Therefore these marks are to be found on the original dies.

I can only ask the question, "What is the meaning of these letters?" Perhaps Mr. Phillips himself can supply the answer, or perhaps one of the Australian readers of *G. S. W.* can give us a solution.

I think that the subject is certainly worthy of mention.

EMILIO DIENA.

ROME, February 27, 1909.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

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VOL. IX.

The Postal Issues of Italy and the Italian Colonies

By L. HANCIAU

(ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.)

(Continued from page 69.)

AS the sale of stamps was calculated to bring in additional revenue, the Minister of the Interior caused the following decree to be promulgated:—

"VICTOR EMMANUEL II,

"*By the Grace of God and by the Will of the Nation*

"King of Italy.

"IN PURSUANCE OF the Royal Decree of the 4th March, 1862, No. 595;

"AND OF the Law of the 14th September, 1862, No. 949;

"AND OF the Royal Decrees of the 2nd and 16th November, 1862, and 2nd August, 1863, Nos. 950, 981, and 1385.

"In view of the desirability of facilitating, in the interests of the public and of the treasury, the sale of postage stamps, stamped paper, and revenue stamps:

"On the advice of the President of the Ministerial Council, and of the Minister of Finance, acting in conjunction with the Minister of Public Works,

"WE HAVE DECREED, AND DO DECREE as follows:—

"Art. 1. The obligation imposed by the Royal Decree of the 4th May, 1862, upon the vendors of articles of which the Government have the monopoly, to keep a stock and to provide for the sale of stamped paper and revenue stamps, shall be extended also to postage stamps, as regards those of the vendors, to whom the Minister of Public Works shall think fit to entrust this service, according to the rule laid down by the regulations of the Administration of Posts.

"Such vendors will be given a discount of 2 per cent for this service.

"Art. 2. In the places where there is no registration office the post offices may be charged with the provision and sale of stamped paper and revenue stamps, and a commission of 1½ per cent will be allowed on such sale.

"Art. 3. The provisions of this decree will come into force on the 1st November next.

"We ordain that this Decree, having been sealed with the Seal of the State, shall be inscribed in the official records of the laws and

decrees of the Kingdom of Italy, and we command all whom it may concern to obey it, and to cause it to be obeyed.

"Given at Turin, the 30th September, 1863.

(Signed) "VICTOR EMMANUEL.

"MINGHETTI."

The result of this decree was that private persons were allowed to sell postage stamps (which was not the case previously), and that special licences to sell stamps were done away with. In this way the Administration of Posts hoped to see post offices established in every commune in the kingdom.

The supply of stamps ordered from Messrs. De La Rue and Co. having been ready a month earlier than they were expected, M. Matraire, to whom we have so often referred, was notified that his deliveries of stamps were to cease on the 1st December, 1863, instead of on the 31st, and the authorities, delighted at being at last able to issue acceptable stamps, hastened to promulgate the following decree:—

"VICTOR EMMANUEL II,

"*By the Grace of God and by the Will of the Nation*

"King of Italy.

"On the advice of Our Minister of Public Works,

"WE HAVE DECREED AND DO DECREE as follows:—

"Art. 1. On and after the 1st December next there will be issued postage stamps on watermarked paper of the colour, value, and form of those shown on the table* annexed to this decree.

"Art. 2. The stamps now in use will be available for the prepayment of correspondence sent through the post, as well as those of the new

* The table annexed to the decree bore specimens, in the official colours, of the eight values, imperforate, with the exception of the 2 lire, which was perforated. They were all overprinted horizontally in black, with the word "SAGGIO" (proof or specimen) in a single line, in small letters 1½ mm. high. The sheet, which contained the eight stamps in two horizontal rows, bore the following inscriptions printed in black: at the top in two lines, "FRANCOBOLLI POSTALI—1863"; and at the lower right, "Il Ministro dei Lavori Pubblici,—L. F. MENABREA".

type, during the whole of the month of December; after that period the former will cease to have legal circulation, but may be exchanged by the post offices for those of the new type during the month of January, next year, 1864.

"We ordain that this Decree, sealed with the Seal of the State, shall be inscribed in the official records of the laws and decrees of the Kingdom of Italy, and we command all whom it may concern to obey it, and to cause it to be obeyed.

"Given at Turin, the 29th October, 1863.

(Signed) "VICTOR EMMANUEL.
"L. F. MENABREA."

The public were advised of the decree of the 29th October, 1863, by a notice from the Post Office Department, as a change in the values had been made from those mentioned in the law of the 5th May, 1862 (see pages 51, 52), in which were mentioned 80 centesimi and 3 lire stamps.

Issue of December 1, 1863.



This set includes two distinct designs.

I. Figure '1' in white, bearing in the centre, vertically, the words "UN CENTESIMO" on a coloured ground; the frame is rectangular, formed of a Greek pattern, and is inscribed at the top, "POSTE"; at the bottom, "ITALIANE," in white letters. The background is filled with fancy scrollwork.

II. Head of Victor Emmanuel II, in profile, to left, in an oval band containing at top, "POSTE ITALIANE," in white letters on coloured ground (except in the 2 lire, which has this inscription in coloured letters on a white ground), at the bottom, the value in words, either in white or in colour, as in the case of the other inscription. There is a different design for each value in the corners of the rectangular frame.

Engraved by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., of London, and surface-printed in colour by the same firm, under the superintendence of the Italian Government, on white surfaced paper, watermarked with a Crown, as shown in the illustration above. Perforated 14.

The paper was given a first impression

consisting of a network in *pale yellow*, only visible under a microscope and not always then!

The sheets were composed of a hundred stamps each, arranged in ten rows, but four hundred stamps were printed at a time in four panes of a hundred stamps each; I find proof of this in the report of M. Perazzi, which will be given later on, and in which he informs the Italian Government that the 100 millions of 15 centesimi stamps required five hundred reams of paper. The ream being composed of five hundred sheets, the total number of sheets must have been 250,000, which shows that the size of these sheets must inevitably have been such as to accommodate four sheets of a hundred stamps.

1 centesimo,	pale bronze-green.
5 centesimi,	grey-green.
10 "	ochre-yellow (shades).
15 "	milky blue, blue.
30 "	deep brown.
40 "	pale and bright carmine.
60 "	lilac.
2 lire,	orange-red.

Variety. Imperforate.

15 centesimi, blue.

I have not got this stamp by me, and in view of the general regularity of the work of Messrs. De La Rue and Co., I rather question whether this is not the essay mentioned later.

* * *

Forgeries used Postally.

During the month of January, 1864, the Director-General of Posts received from M. Re an envelope franked with five *imperforate* 1 centesimo stamps, which were forgeries. Their fraudulent nature not having been noticed, the stamps had been duly obliterated by the Post Office. The sender of the envelope, who was also the forger, was one of those who submitted designs in 1862 for the embossed stamps; and his object was to prove to the Administration that the stamps of De La Rue, which it was said were incapable of being forged, could be perfectly imitated and with such success as the department could not deny, and that the latter was therefore in error in rejecting designs which would have fully answered the purpose (!?).

I centesimo, bronze-green (imperf.).
I " blue (imperf., curiosity).

The Post Office Department did not display any signs of agitation; M. Re, perceiving this, and feeling that he was unappreciated, decided on going abroad. Having found the sum of fr. 3900 (£156) in the cash box of the department (which did not

appear to want it particularly), he resigned himself to slipping it into his pocket, and departed for more kindly lands in September, 1865.

It was probably through forgetfulness that he never thought of returning the cash that he had borrowed!

* * *

Essays.—First of all there were those submitted by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., upon and in accordance with the request made to them, essays with figures in the corners; these designs were at once rejected as not being sufficiently artistic. I have not had the opportunity of seeing any of them.

The first proofs of the adopted designs bear the dates on which they were presented for approval. Each value was sent in as it was finished, the actual order being as follows:—

On white, glazed card; dated in black.

15 centesimi, black . .	dated April 13, 1863
*60 " lilac " " 24 "	
1 centesimo, red-brown " " 25 "	
*5 centesimi, violet-brown †, May 23, "	
*10 " ochre-yellow " " " "	
30 " brown " " " "	
*40 " carmine " " " "	
*2 lire, orange-yellow " " " "	

Undated.

1 centesimo, bronze-green, orange.
5 centesimi, bright green, olive, yellow, * ochre-yellow, *brownish yellow, salmon, * pale brick-red, carmine, bluish carmine [crimson?], lilac, bright lilac, violet, slate, * pearl-grey, * black, deep greenish grey, greys, bistre, * pale brown, red-brown.
10 " violet.
*15 " ultramarine.
30 " yellow, violet.
60 " bright violet, black.
2 lire, salmon, black.

As above, but on white surfaced paper with wmk. Crown.

1 centesimo, black.
5 centesimi, blue, yellow, brick-red, brown.
10 " ultramarine, green, bronze-green, carmine, violet-brown, grey.
15 " blue, ultramarine, blue-green, yellow-green, yellow, golden yellow, orange, red-brown, black.
60 " violet.
2 lire, green.

The same; printers' trial.

15 centesimi, blue on yellow pelure paper.

* Stamps marked thus have a white line across them.
† A pair of stamps had the following inscription in manuscript across it, partly on the stamp themselves: "Colori diversi da suggerirsi per franco bollo da cmi o 5 in sostituzione del colore verde chiaro" (Various colours to be suggested for the 5 c. postage stamp, in place of light green).

An essay, the author of which is unknown to me, bears the head of Victor Emmanuel II to left, within a circular garter, enclosed in a rectangular frame with a quadrillé background; at the bottom is a horizontal label containing the words "CENT QUINDICI."

15 cent., blue on *glazed white*.

Another essay, the origin of which is equally unknown to me, shows the same head in an oval inscribed at the top, "POSTE ITALIANE"; at the bottom, "o CENTESIMI." There are rosettes in the corners of the frame.

o centesimi, blue, golden yellow, violet, black, bistre.

In addition to the above, I have two more essays of unknown origin, which are bad imitations of the De La Rue stamps. The first of these shows a head of Victor Emmanuel II to left, enclosed in an oval band inscribed at top "POSTE ITALIANE," in white letters, within a rectangular frame with ornaments in the corners; no value indicated. The second has the inscription in



the oval band in coloured letters, "POSTE ITALIANE" above and "SESSANTA CENTESIMI" below; there is an ornament resembling a letter "v" in each corner; the head is similar to that of the preceding essay. In both the central oval has a ground of vertical lines.

No value, blue, green on *white*.

60 centesimi, yellow and black on *white*.

(To be continued.)

Death of Mr. E. J. Nankivell.

As we go to press we deeply regret to hear of the sudden death of Mr. E. J. Nankivell, the first editor of this journal. We shall publish a fuller notice next week.

The Stamps of some of the Native States of India

By E. B. EVANS

(Continued from page 73.)

Poonch—continued

Issue of 1880-88 (?).

[NOTE.—I give the above dates to this issue because, although the stamps continued in use down to the end of 1894, no actually new varieties of paper are known to have been employed during the last few years of their circulation; indeed, all obtainable varieties may have already been tried.]

OUR values, all of the same design, a different one from that previously employed, varying in size as shown in the following illustrations:—



½ a.



1 a.



2 a.



4 a.

Inscriptions in two forms, as before, but in this case the Devanagri is in two horizontal lines above, and the Arabic (or Persian) in two lines below; both read *Riasat Poonch*, followed by the value in words, the value in Arabic being in the bottom line of all. There is also the date "1937" (=1880) in Arabic only, the figures being in the two lower corners, "19"—"37," of the ½ a. and 1 a., and in the upper centre of the lower half of the stamp on the 2 a. and 4 a.

The dies for these stamps were engraved upon brass, and the stamps were hand-struck, singly, upon papers the numerous varieties of which form the great difficulty and at the same time the principal attraction of the stamps of Poonch.

1. The stamps of 1876 and 1879 appear to be known only upon the common yellowish wove paper, already described;

it is natural to suppose that this was the first paper used for the stamps of 1880. I have specimens of three of the values upon this paper, and it is probable that the fourth, the 4 a., also existed.

½ a.	red on thin, yellowish wove.
1 a.	" "
2 a.	" "
4 a. (?)	" "

2. The first paper seems to have continued in use down to 1884, when a philatelic demand for the stamps first arose; possibly this demand led to the use of a somewhat better quality of paper. A yellow paper was evidently used at a comparatively early date, but I think it will simplify matters if I list first the varieties of white or toned paper, some of which were seen quite as early as the yellow. I therefore take next white or toned wove bâtonné paper (1884?).

½ a.	red on toned wove bâtonné.
1 a.	" "
2 a.	" "
4 a.	" "

I have the ½ a. and 2 a. on this paper with gum, and I believe all four values were found in this condition, as well as without gum.

3. White or toned laid bâtonné, various qualities. It will be remembered that the ½ a. on white laid bâtonné was chronicled in *The Philatelic Record* for February, 1885; one of these papers was therefore in use as early as No. 2, and I assign the same date to this.

(a) Ordinary "foreign" note-paper, in two forms, one having five and the other six close lines between what we may call the bâtonné lines. I do not attempt to separate these, because it is impossible to do so except in the case of blocks of the stamps or specimens with very large margins. Probably all four values exist upon both varieties.

½ a.	red on white laid bâtonné.
1 a.	" "
2 a.	" "
4 a.	" "

I have the ½ a. on this paper printed very wide apart, as well as close together; and in the Tapling Collection there is a vertical tête-bêche pair of the stamps printed wide apart.

(b) White or yellowish ribbed bâtonné paper. The lines in this have the appearance of being produced after the paper was

made, by passing it between ribbed rollers; I find seven close lines and then a space, thus constituting a species of *bâtonné*.

$\frac{1}{2}$ a., red on white ribbed *bâtonné*.
2 a. " toned ",
4 a. " " "

(c) A thicker and harder, ribbed paper, again showing the lines very marked on the surface; but this is a distinctly *bâtonné* paper, with six thin lines between each pair of thick ones.

1 a., red on thickish ribbed *bâtonné*.

4. *Very thick, azure laid* paper (1885). This was the paper of a few stamps which I obtained in 1885; it is similar to the paper used in Jhind in 1876.

$\frac{1}{2}$ a., red on thick, *azure laid*.
2 a. " " "
4 a. " " "

The 1 a. may also exist, but it has never been seen, in fact the copies I obtained appear to be the only ones known to collectors.

5. *White laid* paper. This appears to be an ordinary laid foolscap paper.

$\frac{1}{2}$ a., red on *white laid*.
1 a. " "
2 a. " "
4 a. " "

6. Stamps on *yellow* paper were also chronicled early in 1885, the paper being apparently *yellow wove bâtonné* (1884 or 1885?).

$\frac{1}{2}$ a., red on *yellow wove bâtonné*.
1 a. " "
2 a. " "
4 a. " "

7. In the following year we heard of stamps on *buff wove bâtonné*, the paper of which I am inclined to call *orange-buff* (1886?).

$\frac{1}{2}$ a., red on *orange-buff wove bâtonné*.
2 a. " "
4 a. " "

8. In the same year stamps were received on *thin yellow laid* paper (1886).

$\frac{1}{2}$ a., red on *yellow laid*.
1 a. " "
2 a. " "
4 a. " "

9. With these *yellow* papers I class a paler *buff laid* or *ribbed bâtonné* paper, with a similar surface to that of No. 3 (b).

1 a., red on *buff ribbed bâtonné*.
4 a. " "

10. Two varieties of *green* paper were noted in 1887, the first of them being described as "pale green laid." The four values are found upon paper of a *blue-green* shade, but in the Tapling Collection there is the $\frac{1}{2}$ a. upon *yellow-green* also.

$\frac{1}{2}$ a., red on *blue-green laid*.
1 a. " "
2 a. " "
4 a. " "
 $\frac{1}{2}$ a., *yellow-green laid*.

11. A few months later the 1 anna was found on *green wove bâtonné*.

1 a., red on *blue-green wove bâtonné*.

12. And at the end of the same year, 1887, the 2 annas came over on the *lavender wove bâtonné* paper, which was chronicled in *Le Timbre-Poste* for January, 1888. I have more recently seen a specimen of the 1 anna on what appears to be the same variety of paper.

1 a., red on *lavender wove bâtonné*.
2 a. " "

This paper is rather liable to fade and become discoloured.

Issue of 1885 or 1886.

In this year, we are told, a *quarter anna* stamp first became necessary, for denoting the State postage on British Indian post cards. For this value the engraver returned to his first design, with a square inscribed frame, and value in the centre, this being the actual stamp shown in the illustration given under the issue of 1876. The date upon the new die is "1942." The value, according to the authorities in India, is engraved as *ek pice*, which would be *one-twelfth* of an anna, but it is intended for *one pice*= $\frac{1}{4}$ anna.

The die of this value was an engraved bloodstone, from which the stamps were struck by hand as before.

Although the date upon the die corresponds with the year April, 1885, to April, 1886, I suspect that the stamps were not issued before the latter part of the second year, as stamps appear to have been imported from Poonch during both 1885 and 1886, but this value was first chronicled in May, 1887.

The paper was described as "white laid," but doubtless the word "*bâtonné*" should be added, as the 1 pice is well known upon the ordinary "foreign" note-paper, but I have not seen or heard of it (in red) upon any other *white* paper. In September, 1887, it was chronicled upon *blue wove bâtonné*, and it is found upon various other papers which may have been employed earlier for this as for other values; in fact there are circumstances which seem to indicate that the *blue wove bâtonné* was the last paper used for the 1 pice, but it may be that this paper (on which no other value is known) came into use again later, after others had been employed in the usual indiscriminate manner.

1 pice, red on *white laid bâtonné* (1886?).
1 " " *blue wove bâtonné* (1887).
1 " " *yellow wove bâtonné*.
1 " " *orange-buff wove bâtonné*.
1 " " *yellow laid*.

1 pice,	red on	yellow laid bâtonné.
1 "	"	green wove
1 "	"	" laid (?)
1 "	"	grey-blue laid.
1 "	"	" lilac laid.

Upon four of these papers no other value is known to me. The *blue wove bâtonné* I have already referred to; the *yellow laid bâtonné* is the "foreign" note-paper in *yellow*, sheets of which may have been mixed with other *yellow* paper, and it is curious that other values should not have been found upon it. The *grey-blue laid* and the *lilac laid* are ordinary thinish, coloured laid papers, very similar in texture to the *yellow* and *green laid*. I have two specimens of the 1 pice on *lilac laid* upon post cards from Kahuta to Gujarkhan, postmarked December, 1894. The impression in both cases is in *red*, not *aniline rose*.

I should add that the 1 pice stamps are not uncommonly found *inverted* or *sideways* on the sheets; I have blocks showing some very complicated combinations.

* * *

As I have previously stated, one of the values, the *half anna*, was chronicled in *pink*, in March, 1888, and this *pink* colour I take to be the *aniline rose* of the catalogue. The question now arises, whether from this period the *rose* ink was employed exclusively—in which case all the stamps listed above in *red* are of earlier printings—or whether the use of this colour was temporary only, and the *red* was reverted to later. And out of this arises another question, namely, whether during the last few years of the issue any attempt was made to distinguish the values by the colours of their papers;* for curiously enough, although all four values are found in *rose*, each is known only upon one coloured paper, and no two of them upon the same paper. This may be only a coincidence, or it may be that there was a temporary use of the *rose* ink together with a short-lived idea of using different papers for the different values. The result is as follows, in what I have for the time classed as a separate issue.

Issue of 1888 (?).

Values and types as in 1880 and 1885–86. Struck in *aniline rose* upon various papers.

1 p.	aniline rose on	blue wove bâtonné.
½ a.	"	" white laid bâtonné.
1 a.	"	" green laid.
1 a.	"	" wove bâtonné.
2 a.	"	" lavender wove bâtonné.
4 a.	"	" yellow laid.

* According to a paper in *The Philatelic Journal of India* for January, 1898, "an attempt has always been made to keep to the same colour for the same denomination." Captain Godfrey's account, given later, in no way confirms this statement, but I think it may have been the case at one time, though certainly not "always."

Of these I should add that the 1 a. on *green laid* and the 4 a. are on papers differing from those of the same values in *red*; the colours are *paler green* and *paler yellow* respectively than before, the papers are thinner and the *laid* lines less distinct and apparently wider, but they are not easy to measure. I think it possible that these two varieties were printed during the period after postal use had ceased, when the 1 a. and 4 a. were used fiscally; but if so, this would argue a continuance of the use of different papers for different values. I know of no other varieties that could be assigned to the fiscal period.

OFFICIAL STAMPS.

The whole of the then current set, printed in *black*, for official use, seems to have been issued about the middle of 1888, or earlier, the first mention of them being in *The Philatelic Record* for July of that year. They may have been issued in April, when the Samvat year commenced.

Issue of April (?), 1888.

Dies of 1880 and of 1885–86 struck in *black* upon white or toned paper.

1. White laid bâtonné paper.

1 pice,	black.
½ anna	,
1 "	,
2 annas	,
4 "	,

2. Toned wove bâtonné paper (1890?).

1 pice,	black.
½ anna	,
1 "	,
2 annas	,
4 "	,

Some of the values were found upon this second variety of paper in 1890; probably both papers were employed after that.

* * *

The postage stamps of Poonch became obsolete at the end of 1894 or very early in 1895. In October, 1896, the dies of the 1 pice, ½ a., and 2 a. stamps, and the square obliterating mark last in use, were handed over to Captain Godfrey for safe custody, and the dies of the 1 a. and 4 a. stamps, which had been used in the meantime as fiscals, were handed over to the same gentleman in July, 1898. Whether any fresh printings of the three former values took place after the stamps went out of use no one seems to know. The *grey-blue laid*, on which I have only seen the 1 pice, is the only distinct variety of paper different from any of those noted before 1895 and not authenticated by *used* copies. Of the 1 pice on *lilac laid* I have used copies, as

previously stated ; I have also an obliterated copy of the same value on *yellow laid bâtonné*, which may have been postmarked to order (some work of this kind having taken place, as will be seen), but the paper is so exactly the colour of some of the other yellow papers that it is more likely to be an accidental variety of earlier date. It should be noted that all these three varieties of paper, the date of use of which is uncertain, are only found with the 1 pice ; had there been any reprinting we should expect to find other values on the same papers.

Of the 1 a. and 4 a. it is natural to suppose that further impressions were struck for fiscal use, indeed, Mr. F. B. O'Shea, the writer of the article in *The Philatelic Journal of India* for February, 1898, appeared to have seen those stamps being printed shortly before he wrote, and his article was plainly written some time after the postage stamps had gone out of use. I have, however, only met with one variety of each value that was likely to belong to this period.

There were *remainders*, of course, which were placed in the hands of a reverend gentleman, whose name was well known in connection with the *remainders*, etc., of Kashmir, but I can find no details at all either of the varieties that existed or the quantities. In fact, the only mention of them that I can find is in *The Ph. J. of India* for December, 1898, and January, 1899, in the former of which it was stated that some of these remainders had been "obliterated to order," before the obliterator was handed over to Captain Godfrey ; whilst in the latter it was announced that Captain Godfrey had "induced Rev. Father Simons to hand over to him for destruction all the 'postmarked to order' Poonch stamps which he had in his stock." Many of the stamps thus defaced must, however, have been sold before this event took place.

Two obliterating dies only are stated to have been used in the State Post Office. The earliest of these was a very elaborate one, too much so to come out clearly in ordinary use ; a good illustration of it, "taken from a proof impression found in the possession of the die cutter," is given in *The Ph. J. of India* for May, 1899. It is circular in shape, diameter about 30 mm., with a border of fine crossed lines, inside which the disc is divided horizontally into two equal portions, the upper semicircle being filled with an inscription in Devanagri and the lower with one in Persian or Arabic. The Devanagri inscription commences with an "invocation to the Deity"—*Sri Ragnathji Sahai* ; the remainder reads *Muhr dak khana riasat Poonch Samvat 1933* (= Post Office seal of the Poonch State, and the date), and this portion is repeated in the Persian inscription. This die, which seems to have been lost, was used, Captain

Godfrey says, as late as 1887 ; from about that date a much simpler mark was employed, consisting of lines forming three squares one inside the other, with a square dot in the centre ; the outer square, measuring about 17 mm., is complete, the two inner ones have wide gaps at the corners.

Finally, the various dies which were in existence when the stamps became obsolete for all purposes, and which had been presented by the Raja to Captain Godfrey, were duly defaced, each of the brass dies having lines cut across it, and the bloodstone die of the 1 pice having bits chipped out of it at the top and right-hand side. This defacement was recorded in the minutes of the Philatelic Society of India, as follows :—

"Proceedings of a meeting of the Members of the Philatelic Society of India residing in Simla, held at Fir Hill on the 7th July, 1899.

"PRESENT :

"C. STEWART-WILSON, President,
Captain Godfrey, Major Lukis, Mr. C. T. Jacoby,
Mr. Lovell Pigott, and (by invitation) Sardar
Devi Singh, Prime Minister of the Poonch
State.

"Mr. Stewart-Wilson produced a sealed envelope containing packages sealed with Captain Godfrey's seal. After Captain Godfrey had examined the seals and found them intact, the parcel was opened. It was found to contain the following dies of the obsolete Poonch State postage stamps, viz.—

$\frac{1}{4}$ anna,	1 anna,
$\frac{1}{2}$ " ,	2 annas,
and 4 annas,	

as also the square obliterator used by the State before the Poonch postal system was merged in the Imperial Post Office. An impression of each of these dies was then taken in black oil stamping ink,* one set of impressions being given to each of the gentlemen present, and four sets being reserved, one for Mr. Masson, Vice-President of the Society, one for Major Evans, one for the Srinagar Museum, and one for the Society itself. The dies and obliterator were then each defaced by having a deep line drawn through them with a file. The quarter-anna die had pieces chipped out of two of the edges. Impressions of the defaced dies were then similarly taken, and the dies and the obliterator were handed over to Captain Godfrey in accordance with the letter quoted below from the Rajah Sahib of Poonch :—

"I hereby certify that the five postal dies of Poonch, one each of half-anna, one-anna, two-annas, and four-annas of S. 1937, and one of quarter-anna of S. 1942, together with one square obliterator, were presented by me to Captain S. H. Godfrey, to be disposed of by him as he may wish.

(Sd.) " " BULDEO SINGH,
 " " Raja of Poonch."

"The meeting closed after an unanimous vote of thanks to Raja Buldeo Singh."

* Upon thickish toned wove paper.—E. B. E.

Thus ends the history of a very interesting series of stamps, all of which were issued for legitimate postal purposes, some of them being thus employed for several years before their existence became known to collectors. Some of the later varieties may be due, indirectly, to philatelic demands, which doubtless occasioned much more frequent and extensive printing of the stamps than had previously taken place, but it does not appear that there was any intentional multiplying of varieties. No changes in the designs were made after the philatelic demand arose, and the one low value that was added to the set was an absolutely necessary one. The colour of the impression also remained without any marked alteration, and the "Official" issue was no doubt equally legitimate.

To what extent postmarking to order took place, either before or after the stamps became obsolete, I am unable to say, but it may be well to warn collectors that some fairly successful forgeries exist, both in *red* and in *black*, of all the five values last in use; I have specimens of them obliterated with a good imitation of the square obliterator, and I also have copies of three of them obliterated with what appears to be the circular date-stamp of Jammu and Kashmir, which is not infrequently found upon the remainders and forgeries of the stamps of that State. This seems to suggest that the Poonch and Kashmir forgeries either came from the same source or at least passed through the same hands on their way to collectors.

(*To be continued.*)

A History of the Post Office and the Stamps of Malta

By LIEUT. W. R. GATT, Royal Malta Artillery

(Continued from page 140.)

THE 1885 ISSUE.

WHEN, in 1885, the General Post Office was transferred from the imperial to the local authorities, a new set of stamps for Malta, bearing the effigy of the late QUEEN VICTORIA and ranging in value from $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 1s., was substituted for the English stamps hitherto used to frank letters for abroad. The halfpenny stamp ceased to perform local service only, and was printed in a new colour, viz. *green*. The set was issued to the public for use on January 1, 1885, in accordance with the following extract from a Post Office Notice:—

"GENERAL POST OFFICE,
"Valletta, December 9, 1884.

"Malta postage stamps to be used on and after the 1st of January may be purchased at the General Post Office, Valletta, on and after the 27th of December."

"ROGER DUKE."



The stamps are in four different designs, the 2d., 4d., and 1s. being alike. The colours of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., and $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. are in accordance with the International Postal Convention. The stamps are all watermarked Crown and CA, and their perforation gauges 14.

A few important shades, not the result of a long life in a damp place, are known to exist:—

- $\frac{1}{2}$ d., green.
- $\frac{1}{2}$ d., dark green (*brown gum*).
- $\frac{1}{2}$ d., grey-green.
- 1d., rose.
- 1d., carmine.
- 2d., grey.
- 2d., slate.
- $2\frac{1}{2}$ d., blue (*brown gum*).
- $2\frac{1}{2}$ d., dull ultramarine (*brown gum*).
- $2\frac{1}{2}$ d., bright ultramarine-blue (*brown gum*).
- $2\frac{1}{2}$ d., bright ultramarine (*white gum*).
- 4d., brown.
- 1s., lilac.
- 1s., violet.

At the grand manoeuvres in 1902* the 1d. stamp was split diagonally and used as a

* Query whether this date should not be 1900. An occurrence of this nature was reported in January, 1901; possibly the same thing happened in 1902.—E. B. E.

halfpenny stamp. Although the Post Office authorities deny their legality, letters prepaid by halves of penny stamps did pass the Post Office, as shown by the postmark. They were all used on official correspondence within the tactical area.

In the 2½d. value the specialist has a very wide field before him. The classification of the minor varieties of shade in the following list is taken from *Ewer's Weekly Stamp News*, No. 153. There are four chief tints, each of which is presumably from a distinct printing; the minor shades are probably due to heavy or light inking, or to deoxidation.

I. BLUE (a) dull.
(b) deep.
(c) pale.
(d) dark.

II. DULL ULTRAMARINE (a) grey-blue.
(b) deep.
(c) deep, rather
bright.
(d) medium.
(e) pale.

III. BRIGHT ULTRAMARINE-BLUE, four shades
(a, b, c, d), from dark to pale.

IV. BRIGHT ULTRAMARINE, pale, two shades
(a, b).

Of course no collector is obliged to trouble about these shade varieties. There are really only four distinct printings, of which Nos. I, II, III have *brown* gum, and No. IV *white* gum. Of the minor shades No. IIa is very distinct, but is of no particular importance, being due in all probability to deoxidation.

In the ½d. and 1s. stamps inverted watermarks have been met with. Of the halfpenny stamps there were apparently only two sheets thus printed, one issued at the Victoria Post Office at Gozo, in 1888, as is evident from all the date-postmarked specimens that have been seen; the other at the Valletta Post Office about 1890. This variety in the One Shilling is very rare; only one copy has as yet been detected; it is postmarked "8th Sep. 90—Parcel Post Office Valletta"; probably there was only one sheet. Another watermark variety in the halfpenny value, which must not be omitted, consists in a peculiar letter "C" of "CA", which is so much squeezed in that it forms a regular "O" and is a smaller letter than the usual "C".

I have seen an unused imperforate 1s., *lilac*, in the collection of Mr. Owen Fearnley, R.N. It is the only one I or any other Maltese collector have ever seen or heard of. The stamp has the "CA" watermark, and there is no doubt that it came from the genuine plate. Probably the specimen is from a proof sheet, as there were no stamps issued at Malta in an imperforate condition

except the Fourpence, *brown*, of this set. It is impossible for the specimen in question to have been produced by trimming, as the margin of an ordinary copy is not sufficient to allow of its being converted into an apparently imperforate stamp.

In 1885, when this stamp came into use, Philately had already attained such wide popularity that anything peculiar or abnormal in a stamp would not have passed unnoticed. It therefore seems certain that this must be a cutting from a proof sheet, and although its authenticity as a genuine impression cannot be impugned, yet I am undecided whether to chronicle a stamp which was never issued.

The FOURPENCE imperforate.

The 4d. imperforate was discovered on the 16th of December, 1893, by a police official who happened to send for a stamp of that value to the Valletta Post Office. He immediately showed it to a Mr. Leonardini, an old and experienced Maltese collector, who at once sent a messenger to the Post Office and bought the rest of the sheet—the only one found in that condition.

Mr. Leonardini wrote to many English firms about this discovery, and offered them pairs and blocks, for cash or exchange, but he was told that a variety of that nature was of no importance.*

Thereupon he sent a pair to Monsieur Pierre Mahé, of Paris, who kept one of the stamps and enclosed fifty francs for it.

An unused pair realized £12, in 1902, at a London stamp auction. The price of pairs is increasing enormously.

The sheet, as usual, contained 120 stamps in two panes, each pane having 60 stamps.

Sheet Arrangement.

The sheets of the ½d., *green*, are like those of the *yellow* stamps in all respects.

The sheets of the 2d., 2½d., 4d., and 1s. were arranged in two panes of 60 stamps, side by side, whilst those of the ½d. value were in four panes of 60 each.

The plate numbers (two to each sheet), in *white* on circular coloured discs, are in the top and bottom margins, over the second stamp from the right in the top row, and below the second stamp from the left in the bottom row.

All the values were printed from plates numbered "I."

* It is only fair to state that the history given at the time made it appear very doubtful whether the stamp had really been put on sale at a Post Office or not. Had the present account been given then, the reception of the variety would have been very different.—E. B. E.

The Five Shillings Stamp.

In the year 1886 the 5s. stamp was issued; it is perforated 14 and watermarked Crown and C.C. It was put on sale on the 1st of January of that year. The stamp is of a larger size than the lower values, the design measuring about 26 x 31 mm. It has been found with the watermark inverted, in three sheets.

Each sheet contains 120 stamps, in one pane of ten horizontal rows of twelve. The usual white margin surrounds the sheet and is watermarked "CROWN COLONIES" at each vertical side, reading upwards on the left and downwards on the right.

In the top and bottom margins there is the plate number "1," in white on a coloured disc, above or below the second stamp from each corner of the sheet.

The colour of the stamp is *rose*, varying later to *carmine-rose*, making two very distinct shades.

The 4½d., 5d., 2s. 6d., and 10s. Stamps.

Quite a novelty for Malta were the four supplementary, pictorial values, 4½d., 5d., 2s. 6d., and 10s., all perforated 14. The first two are watermarked Crown and C.A. and are of the ordinary size; the others (2s. 6d. and 10s.) are on Crown and C.C. paper and are of larger size, like the 5s. of the 1886 issue. They were designed by a Post Office clerk, evidently full of patriotism, and printed in London by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. The designs are very poor and leave much to be desired, those of the two higher values being of the most meagre description. The paper seems to be of an inferior quality, and there is a great lack of refinement throughout. In my opinion as a philatelist there is nothing so neat and suitable as the effigy of the reigning sovereign on a stamp. Why was not the figure of the late QUEEN VICTORIA in her Jubilee Robes selected to adorn these stamps?

A little scroll, just above the value, in explanation of the illustration, would not have been out of place, as in the case of the pictorial issues of New Zealand, Tasmania, etc.

The stamps were issued to the public on the 4th of February, 1899.



The designs represent the following local subjects:—

4½d., grey-brown or black-brown; *a Gozo boat in full sail.*

5d., vermilion; *an ancient galley of the Knights of Malta.*

2s. 6d., greenish grey; *an emblematic figure of Malta, holding the sword by the blade* (a rather dangerous performance).

10s., deep blue; *shipwreck of St. Paul on the Island in A.D. 58.*

A few extracts showing the reception of this issue by the philatelic press will not be out of place, and may be of guidance for future issues. These quotations should show the authorities that in matters of which they lack knowledge it is safer to seek the advice—and disinterested at that—of those who do know.

The *Virginia Philatelist* (an American leader) under the heading "Et tu Malta?" asserts that this issue is of a speculative nature (so far this is repudiated) and advocates the issue of a threepenny value in greyish tint representing a Maltese cat (surely this is not a speciality of Malta?).

"A.G.T." writing in the March number of the *Melita Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser*, whilst eulogizing this issue, lays much stress on the meagre designs of the stamps, and goes into the most minute details. He begins by questioning the correctness of the drawing of the Gozo boat on the 4½d. stamp, whose "butterfly" sails are much too stiff for want of shading; many parts of the boat are out of proportion.

The 5d. gives a better impression. Unfortunately, the galley is so much cramped for space that no distinction seems to be made between clouds and sea; the stamp, as a whole, gives the idea of a Chinese junk, if not of a price ticket, such as is usually seen at the bottom of teapots or earthenware. The writer is of opinion that the background

would have had a better effect if it showed a part of the harbour, say Fort St. Angelo.

The 2s. 6d. stamp bears the full figure of a woman (the shading is awful throughout) representing Malta. The subject is a good one, but there is room for artistic composition and execution, every detail of the stamp being excessively symmetrical if not geometrical, thereby affording no pleasing effect to the eye.

The 10s. stamp, illustrating the shipwreck of St. Paul, is the best executed of the set. Two women are seen in the sea struggling for life. The Book of the Acts of the Apostles does not mention any women among the 276 souls on board with St. Paul, at the time when the ship struck and went down. The wind and the sea of the raging tempest could not possibly admit of such tidiness as shown by the artistic curling of the women's hair. The writer of the article, of which I have given a summary, ends up by heartily approving the action of the Post Office Authorities in adding these four necessary values to the current set.

Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal for February, 1899, says:—

"The pictorial mania has spread to this Island which, instead of joining the Penny Postal Union, has issued four new values—two of them plainly for the 2½d. tariff. The designs are engraved in *taille douce* . . . On the 2s. 6d. is the figure of

a lady, in a helmet with plumes, probably Miss Melita Britannia, with a sword, which she cautiously holds by the blade in her left hand, and a shield bearing the Arms of Malta in her right; whilst on the 10s. there is a kind of mixed representation of the escape of St. Paul from shipwreck and from the serpent, events which probably did not take place in the island which we know as Malta. St. Paul stands on the sea-shore with the ship sinking in the background on one side, and the serpent falling into the fire at some distance behind the Saint on the other; at his feet are two ladies in the water, and it seems doubtful whether they are swimming from the ship or have fled into the sea from the snake. It is a curious picture."

Sheet Arrangement.

The sheets of the 4½d. and 5d. stamps contain two panes of sixty stamps each, in ten rows of six, with a margin similar to the 1885 set, but without any plate number. In the 4½d. the watermark is, of course, upright, and the rows of six are horizontal; in the 5d. the watermark is sideways and the rows of ten horizontal.

The sheets of the 2s. 6d. and 10s. stamps consist of one pane only, of five horizontal rows of twelve stamps; they are framed by a white margin, watermarked "CROWN" on the left and "COLONIES" on the right side.* They do not show any plate number.

* Or vice versa?—E.B.E.

(To be continued.)

Philatelic Notes and Queries

By E. B. EVANS

The Cayman Islands Scandal

THE great inquiry, from which such great things were expected, and which it was hoped would at least do something to check the disgraceful speculation that has taken place in the stamps of these Islands, has fizzled out in the feeblest possible manner. Philatelists of all classes have denounced the proceedings with extraordinary unanimity; "Never was heard such a terrible curse! But what gave rise to no little surprise," except on the part of those who know how easily whitewash is applied, "Nobody seemed one penny the worse!" The fact is that the real point of the whole case seems to have been carefully avoided by the inquisitors and, curiously enough, I have not yet seen it referred to in any of the comments that have since been made. The only legitimate excuse for issuing provisional stamps is the exhaustion of the stocks of certain values, and in the Cayman Islands we know that no such exhaustion of stocks ever took place. According to the official correspondence published in connection with the so-called inquiry:—

"On June* 11, 1907, the Hon. Geo. S. Hirst, Commissioner of the Cayman Islands, wrote to the Colonial Secretary (of Jamaica):—

"I have the honour to report that a large foreign order has reduced my stock of ½d. (half penny) stamps to 17 (seventeen) sheets, which at the ordinary rate of sales will not last me eight weeks.

"I am therefore forwarding 40 sheets of penny stamps, of which I have a good stock, with a request that they may be surcharged ½d. and returned to me as soon as possible.

"I shall in the course of a few months, if sales continue as they are at present, be getting short of other denominations, when I will submit the question of a new issue of all denominations to His Excellency."

In reply to this, which I gather was not the only communication received from Mr. Hirst on the subject, the Colonial Secretary wrote, on July 26, 1907, enclosing a copy of the circular issued by the Secretary of State, in August, 1893, on the subject of surcharging

* It seems probable, from subsequent correspondence, that this should be "July."

stamps, and requesting Mr. Hirst to refuse in future to supply "the speculative demands of dealers" until he had got a new stock, and not to sell any of the surcharged stamps except across the counter. Here we have an official reason for declining to supply dealers; but let us look a little further.

The "good stock" of penny stamps seems to have given out sooner than was expected; perhaps it may be possible to account for this circumstance. A few months later both $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. stamps were wanted, and as the authorities in Jamaica seem to have been a little shy about surcharging, those in the Cayman Islands did the work themselves. In his explanation of this, given last April, Mr. Hirst writes as follows:—

"With reference to the 'half penny' on 1d., my letter No. 143 of July 11th, 1907, clearly shows that this issue was not more than necessary.

"With reference to the surcharges $\frac{1}{2}$ d. on 5s. and 1d. on 5s. At the time these surcharges were made I had for the supply of the whole Dependency one sheet of halfpenny stamps and not a single penny stamp. . . .

"The number of sheets surcharged: (a) $\frac{1}{2}$ d. on 5s. was fifteen, on the following date, November 22nd, 1907. (b) 1d. on 5s. was fifteen, on the following date, November 22nd, 1907, and three on December 9th, 1907."

After this follows a violent attack upon certain persons for having dared to suggest that these provisionals were unnecessary, an attack the very violence of which would be sufficient to indicate that the charge had some foundation, even if it were not the case that we all know it to be absolutely correct.

The only legitimate excuse for issuing surcharged stamps was nonexistent, and all these tales about the exhaustion of certain values were "terminological inexactitudes" of the most flagrant description. During the whole period, there were in existence, either in the Cayman Islands or in Jamaica, ample supplies both of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and of 1d. stamps. Forty sheets of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. on 1d. lasted from July or August until November, and doubtless if they had been ordinary stamps they would have lasted longer; *there were at least 81 sheets of ordinary $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamps (bearing the King's Head) on hand at this time.* What quantity of the "good stock" of penny stamps was used during the same period is not stated, but at the time when the 1d. on 5s. was produced, *there were at least 279 sheets 118 odd stamps of the 1d. Queen's Head, and 16 sheets 88 odd stamps of the 1d. King's Head.* About the existence and locality of these stamps there can be no question. In December, 1907, they were being offered for sale, together with other stamps, by a person in the Cayman Islands, so it may be presumed that they were then in that colony itself. In the following month they were

stated, on the authority of the Commissioner to be in the hands of the Governor of Jamaica; and finally, in May, 1903, they were sold by the Crown Agents for the Colonies, who, in offering them for sale, stated:—"The stamps remain available for prepayment of postal charges, and will in any case be sold below face value." And if they were available for prepayment postage in May, 1908, we may presume that they were equally so available during the second half of 1907, and they should have been so employed.

I would venture to suggest that the Secretary of State for the Colonies should pursue his researches a little further, and ask the question direct—Where were the stamps, and why were they not put in use instead of issuing provisionals? At the same time he might inquire whether it is true that, at a somewhat earlier date, certain 6d. and 1s. stamps (afterwards sold by the Crown Agents) were in the hands of the Commissioner, who refused to accept face value for them, though they were stamps that should have been on sale at the Post Office. The statement was made, and has never been contradicted, though the Commissioner said, in April, 1908, "I knew nothing of 'local speculation' until I was informed this very firm, Whitfield King and Co., of Ipswich, England, were making inquiries for their surcharges."

A whole series of stamps, $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., $2\frac{1}{2}$ d., 6d., and 1s., were withdrawn from circulation in the course of 1907; they were perfectly fit for use, and, as I have stated above, were declared twelve months later to "remain available for prepayment of postal charges." If they were not deliberately withdrawn from circulation in order that provisionals might be issued, and that somebody might make a large profit out of them, collectors would like to know what was the reason of such a manœuvre. If the excuse be made that the stamps withdrawn from sale were lettered "POSTAGE" only instead of "POSTAGE & REVENUE," it will be sufficient to point out that neither the 1d. nor the 5s., nor the 4d. surcharged $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. in 1908 bore the word "REVENUE," though it would have been a singularly suitable inscription.

These are the real points that require strict investigation. It matters nothing to the Secretary of State whether speculation in stamps puts money into the pockets of local speculators or of European dealers; the important point is that colonial officials, high or low, should not be permitted to manipulate their postal issues in such a way as to give an opening for scandalous speculation in any quarter. If the Secretary of State for the Colonies requires any information on the subject of these most objectionable proceedings, and the way to deal with

em, I believe the present Postmaster-general could give him some useful hints. Special issues of stamps for little, insignificant places like the Cayman Islands should be withdrawn altogether, so that both officials and private residents may be delivered from temptation. The group is a tiny dependency of Jamaica, and the stamps of Jamaica could be used there; if any values run short it would cause no inconvenience to have postage paid in cash for a week or two, and if a rule to that effect were made, and strictly enforced in all small colonies, stamps never would run short! A postmaster or postmistress is under no obligation to sell stamps to outsiders in other parts of the world, but when there is an ample supply custom should not be refused, as there is a profit of a few thousands per cent even in selling farthing stamps!

* *

British Central Africa and Nyasaland Protectorate

AM indebted to Mr. W. H. Peckitt for another of those pretty little books which Mr. J. Melville turns out with such promptitude and regularity. If there is any fault to be found with these books, it is that at this time of year, when earth, air, and water (to say nothing of fingers) are filthy, a black or dark brown cover would be better to handle than the white one in which they are clothed. Mr. Melville, like the rest of us, cannot be a specialist in the stamps of all the countries

of the world, but he gets together in these handbooks a vast amount of interesting information both about the stamps and about the countries that issue them. The present book commences with a portrait of Sir Harry Johnston, K.C.B., whose name is so well known in connection with this territory, and who not only administered the government with signal success, but is believed also to have designed the stamps of 1895, or at least the Coat-of-Arms depicted upon them. A map, showing the position of the Protectorate and its immediate neighbours, is followed by an account of the "Postal Arrangements," with illustrations of local post offices and postmen; the latter are sometimes annoyed on their rounds by lions and other fearful wildfowl of those parts, whose philatelic studies seem to be confined to the collection of the personnel of the Department. It is unnecessary to say that the stamps are fully described also, and the history of the earliest provisions of local manufacture is both interesting and instructive. The illustration of the half of a 2d. stamp, said to have been used as a 1d., is unfortunately taken from a somewhat unconvincing specimen, the postmark having carefully avoided the cut edge of the stamp; but there seems to be no reason for doubting that these divided stamps were allowed to pass. The lists of varieties appear to be fully up to date, and the book should be found as useful as it is ornamental.

* *

New Issues and Discoveries

By SUB

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Abyssinia.—The new stamps for this country have just been issued, and prove to be very "fine and large"; indeed, our punning contributor suggests they want "many licks" (Meneliks). The set consists of seven values as before, in three designs. The values from $\frac{1}{4}$ g. to 1 g. have a picture in which the Christian descent of the Abyssinians is suggested, whilst the other values show the Emperor in different garbs. On the 2 g. and 4 g. he is clothed in ordinary attire, and has not a very inviting appearance, whilst on the 8 g. and 6 g. he is arrayed in all the glory of official aiment. The tiara he is wearing weighs about 10 lb.; on the front can be clearly distinguished one of the religious symbols that Abyssinia shares with this country, viz. St. George and the Dragon.

The stamps have been designed by M. Victor Marec and engraved by M. E. Dete, and are probably of French manufacture.

The colour of the 1 guerche does not conform to the Postal Union requirements. Presumably this is the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. value, for the $\frac{1}{4}$ g. and $\frac{1}{2}$ g., which are worth about $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. respectively, are in the correct colours. The blue colour has been assigned to the 2 g. (5d.).



17



18



19

1899. Types 17 (1 g. to 1 g.), 18 (2 g. and 4 g.), and 19 (8 g. and 16 g.). Centre in first colour. Perf. 11½.

- 131 1 g., blue-green.
- 132 1 g., rose.
- 133 1 g., orange and grey-green.
- 134 2 g., blue.
- 135 4 g., claret and green.
- 136 8 g., slate and pale red.
- 137 16 g., rose " "

Bosnia and Herzegovina.—We have to chronicle a number of varieties which have been communicated to us by Mr. Stewart-Wilson, I.C.S. The 1 kreuzer, perf. 9, 9½, is a great find, and the compounds of the Postage Due stamps are likewise quite unexpected. We should have some hesitation about including these in our Catalogue if the information did not come from the Postmaster-General of India; but he assures us that they are all absolutely authentic.



I

1890. Type 1. Plate I. (a) Perf. 9, 9½.
39a| 1 (kr.), grey.



51

POSTAGE DUES. 1904. Type 51.

- (b) Perf. 10½.
- 316| 4 h., black, red, and yellow.
- (c) Perf. 12½, 13 and 10½ compound.
- 320| 1 h., black, red, and yellow.
- 321| 2 h., " " "
- 323| 5 h., " " "
- 324| 20 h., " " "
- (d) Perf. 12½, 13 and 9 compound.
- 328| 3 h., black, red, and yellow.
- (e) Perf. 10½ and 9 compound.
- 333| 2 h., black, red, and yellow.

British Solomon Islands.—Mr. A. Ashby has shown us a block of twenty 2½d. stamps (ten

vertical rows of two) from the right-hand side of a sheet in which the vertical line of perforation to the extreme right has been omitted, leaving the stamps *imperf.* on one side. A somewhat similar variety was mentioned in G.S. No. 146, though in this case a horizontal row of perforations had been omitted.

La Circulaire Philatélique states that the whole of the first set has been dangerously forged.

Dutch Indies.—There is a note after No. 10 to say that the ½ c., 5 c., 10 c., 12½ c., and 20 c. are known with overprint inverted. We have received all values from the ½ c. to the 50 c. inclusive, except 3 c. and 15 c., in this state, and are informed that, notwithstanding the prohibition of the authorities as to the issue of these varieties, many sheets got into circulation, and a great many of the stamps were used on letters. We therefore list them below. Many of the stamps overprinted "BUITEN-BEZIT" were issued with the overprint reversed, but at present we have not seen any in this state.

The whole lot of these provisionals savour of speculation, and are not held in very good odor, the *bona fides* of the 7½ c., 17½ c., and 22½ c. in a surcharged state being particularly open to question. Anyway, all these provisionals are to be demonetized from March 31.

J A V A,

14

JUNE, 1908. Stamps of 1908, Types 10 and 11, overprinted with Type 14, in black. Varieties. Overprint inverted.

137a	½ c., bright lilac.
137b	1 c., olive-green.
137c	2 c., brown.
137d	2½ c., green.
137f	5 c., rose.
137g	10 c., dull blue.
137h	12½ c., deep blue.
137k	20 c., olive.
137l	25 c., deep violet.
137m	30 c., chestnut.
137n	50 c., lake-brown.

Ecuador.—The Government of Ecuador recently sold the whole stock of remainders of 1898 issue (Type F6, unsurcharged or charged as Type F7 or Type 38), consisting over 100,000 stamps. We have bought a certain portion of this lot for our approval sheets, and we have also bought all the errors of surcharge that were found in this remainder. Although the stamps were surcharged by hand, the following is a correct list of the only errors found in the remainder:—

"UN" in black, on 5 c., pale blue.
CENTAVO," in black, on 20 c., deep blue.

One stamp on one sheet with the surcharge omitted.

Four stamps with double surcharge.

"CUATRO," in magenta, on 20 c., deep blue CENTAVOS,"

Nine stamps with double surcharge.

Eighty-five stamps with surcharge instead of horizontal.

"DIEZ," in black, on 50 c., dull purple CENTAVOS,"

Eight stamps with double surcharge.

One stamp with surcharge in green.

Here we have a stock of stamps of a Central American Republic, including handstruck proofs, in which there is only about one error to each 1000 stamps, a rather surprisingly small average.

Two stamps of the set which are not included in the Catalogue were also authorized for postal use; they are therefore listed below.



UN
CENTAVO

F 6

38

1898. Type F 6 unsurcharged or surcharged as Type 38.

527a | 5 c., brown.

527b | 10 c., red.

Varieties. (i.) Surcharge omitted (in pair with normal).

527c | 1 c., in black, on 5 c., pale blue.

(ii.) Surcharge double.

527d | 1 c., in black, on 5 c., pale blue.

527e | 4 c., in magenta, on 20 c., deep blue.

(iii.) Surcharge vertical.

527f | 4 c., in magenta, on 20 c., deep blue.

DIEZ
CENTAVOS

F 7

Type F 6 surcharged with Type F 7, in black.

Varieties. (i.) Surcharge double.

529a | 10 c. on 50 c., dull purple.

(ii.) Surcharged in green.

529b | 10 c. on 50 c., dull purple.

Federated Malay States.—The Asiatic Stamp Co., of Penang, have sent us a copy of the 3 c. in red, which was first issued on February 8 at the G.P.O., Kuala-Lumpur. The 8 c. in blue, though announced, has not yet been issued.



3

FEB., 1909. Type 3. Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A. Perf. 14.
40 | 3 c., carmine, O.

Great Britain.—Mr. H. S. Hodson tells us that he has recently discovered an undoubtedly imperforate copy of the 1d., red, 1864 issue, plate 81. It is used and bears a London postmark.

Italian Somaliland (Benadir).—An alteration is apparently to be made in the official title of this Italian colony, for, according to *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* (28.2.09), a new set of Postage Due stamps has appeared, in which the words "Somalia Italiana" only are overprinted, the word "Meridionale" having been omitted. The same values as before have been issued with the exception of the 60c.

Somalia Italiana

Meridionale

1909. Contemporary Postage Due stamps of Italy overprinted as Type 21 (but with "Meridionale" omitted), in black.

62	5 c., orange and magenta.
63	10 c., , ,
64	20 c., , ,
65	30 c., , ,
66	40 c., , ,
68	1 l., buff and magenta.
69	2 l., , ,
70	5 l., , ,
71	10 l., , ,

North Borneo.—Messrs. Bridger and Kay send us some varieties which do not appear in this very much catalogued country.

The first is a cancelled-to-order copy of No. 83, \$1, scarlet, which is perf. 14 on three sides and 11 along the bottom row. It is said to be the only copy found in a large lot. We should like to know more about the variety before including it in the Catalogue, but specialists should certainly take due notice.

In a note after No. 131 the Catalogue says that "the stop after 'PROTECTORATE' sometimes fails to print." Messrs. Bridger and Kay say they have had full sheets of the 6 c. and 8 c. all without stop, so probably there have been more than one setting for some values. They send also a 10 c. without stop, but apparently this is an isolated copy. It seems necessary, therefore, to add to the list of varieties of this issue as follows:—

BRITISH

PROTECTORATE.

48

1901-4. Contemporary issues overprinted with Type 48.

Varieties. No stop after "PROTECTORATE"

6 c. (No. 96), red.

8 c. (97a), blue.

Northern Nigeria.—We have received the 5d. on chalky paper. It has already been chronicled on ordinary paper.



1909. Type 4. Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A. Perf. 14.
24 | 5d., dull purple and chestnut, C.

Russia.—We have received another value of the new series. From the illustration below it will be noticed that this value differs somewhat in design from the other stamps already issued. The varnish lines are still used; the process of application of these must have been something akin to that used for chalk surfacing, as the lines show up black when rubbed with silver. The 10 k., 25 k., and 70 k. are chronicled in some papers; but as there is some doubt as to their actual issue, we defer listing till they are really to hand.



19

1909. Type 19. Varnished lines on surface. No wmk. Perf. 14 x 14½. 4 k., rose.

Salvador.—We are told of some varieties that are not catalogued even in the lengthy list at present included in Part II. For the first two our New York house is the informant, and for the remainder Messrs. Th. Champion and Co.

1905. Stamps of 1900, Type 76 dated 1900, overprinted "1905," by hand.

Variety. (ii.) "1905" inverted at bottom of stamp.
515a| 3 c., black ("1905" Type 93).
524a| 2 c., rose (" , " 94).

SEPT., 1907. Type 102 overprinted with shield Type 81, in black.

Varieties. (i.) Shield omitted.
597| 100 c., turquoise-blue.
(ii.) Shield double.
599a| 3 c., pale yellow.
604| 13 c., sepia.
605| 100 c., turquoise-blue.

Sudan.—In *G.S.W.*, No. 185, we quoted some interesting statistics concerning the stamps overprinted "Army Service," and chronicled the 5 piastres with multiple Star and Crescent wmk., as so treated. The 2 piastres mentioned as being overprinted in December, 1907, should also have been described as having the same wmk., and some of these stamps made their appearance last year.

Army

Service

33

ARMY SERVICE, 1908. Type 2 overprinted with Type 33 in black. Wmk. Multiple Star and Crescent, Type 4. Perf. 14. 214a| 2 p., black and blue.

United States.—We have received the 2 c Lincoln Commemorative and three values of the new series in imperforate sheets. Some of these we are informed, are hard to obtain, and those who received the 5 c. of the 1902 series in this condition should congratulate themselves. We learn that very few were issued.



114



115

1909. Type 114. Imperf.
463| 3 c., deep mauve-violet.
464| 4 c., yellow-brown.
464a| 5 c., deep blue.
Type 115. Imperf.
466| 2 c., rose.

Yunnan-Fou.—We have four varieties in our stock that have not hitherto been catalogued.

YUNNANSEN

仙二

71

1903-4. Type 4 of Indo-China overprinted as Type 71, in black.

Varieties: (i.) Overprint inverted.
A 817a| 10 (c.), rose-red.

(ii.) Value in Chinese omitted.
A 824| 4 (c.), purple-brown on grey.

(iii.) Value in Chinese omitted; "YUNNANSEN" inverted.
A 825| 1 (c.), black on azure.

(iv.) Value in Chinese above "YUNNANSEN".
A 826| 10 (c.), rose-red.

Answers to Correspondents

NORTHANTS NOVICE.—All the sheets of Great Britain that you ask about were arranged in the same way, 240 stamps in twenty horizontal rows of twelve. The letter in the left lower corner of each stamp indicated the horizontal row in which the stamp occurred, the letter in the right lower corner indicated the vertical row. Thus the stamps in the top row were lettered from left to right A—A, A—B, A—C, etc., up to A—L; those in the

second row, B—A, B—B, B—C, etc., to B—L; and so on, those in the bottom row being T—A, T—B, T—C, to T—L. When letters were added in the top corners, those in the bottom corners were left unaltered, and, as you will see on the stamps, the letters in the top corners were those of the bottom corners reversed; thus the first stamp in the second row was lettered A—B at top and (as before) B—A at bottom.

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VOL. IX.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

Grenada—concluded

(Continued from page 200.)

In 1887 the 1d. stamp was altered, so as to be available both for fiscal and postal use. The new stamp was the same in all respects as that of the 1883 issue, except that the inscription at top was made to read "POSTAGE & REVENUE" instead of "POSTAGE" only.



1887. Wmk. Crown CA. Perf. 14.		Unused.	Used.
		s. d.	s. d.
1d., rose	0 3	0 1	

The stamps continued in use till 1895, varied only by the provisionals described in the previous group. In January, 1891, however, when the penny stamps ran short, in addition to the 1d. on 2s. orange fiscal mentioned before, the 8d. De La Rue stamp was also used for provisionals. The same setting that was used for overprinting the 1d. on 2s. was also used for the 8d., but the forme had to be rearranged in ten horizontal rows of six to suit the panes of the 8d. The sheet of "1d. on 8d." having the stamps in alternate tête-bêche rows, the surcharge as first set up was inverted upon the stamps of each alternate row. The variety with *inverted surcharge* is very seldom met with, showing that the first setting must have been changed almost immediately, and the surcharge set up to correspond with the arrangement of the stamps.

In December of the same year the supply of 2½d. stamps became exhausted, and a provisional was made by surcharging this 8d. stamp "2½d." in black. The surcharges were set up in panes of sixty with the alternate rows inverted so as to fall on the stamps in the correct position.

grenada postage



EIGHT PENCE

grenada postage



EIGHT PENCE

Jan.-Dec., 1891. *Surcharged in black.*
Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.

1d. on 8d., grey-brown . .	2 6	2 6
2½d. on 8d. , ,	4 0	4 0

In 1895 the well-known tablet type of Messrs. De La Rue was introduced, and a supply of 2½d., 3d., 6d., 8d., and 1s. stamps put on sale in September. In May, 1896, the 1d., and in September, 1899, the 2d. and 2d. of the same type were also put into use.

The stamps of this issue are surface-printed on Crown and CA paper in sheets of 240 of the usual arrangement of four panes of sixty in ten horizontal rows. The name of the colony and the value or the tablet of value are printed in a different colour from the rest of the design. The ½d., 3d., 8d., and 1s. show the value on a white ground, the other denominations the value on a coloured ground.



1895-9. Name and value or tablet of value in second colour. Wmk. Crown CA. Perf. 14.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d., dull mauve and green . .	0 6	0 2
1d. , , carmine . .	0 4	0 1
2d. , , brown . .	1 0	—
2½d. , , ultramarine . .	0 8	0 3
3d. , , chrome-yellow 1 0	—	—
6d. , , green . .	2 0	—
8d. , , black . .	3 0	—
1d., green and chrome-yellow . .	4 0	—

In 1898 a commemorative stamp was issued, the occasion for which is set forth in the following extract of a letter dated March 12, 1898, sent by the Governor of Grenada to the Colonial Office, asking for its sanction to the proposal :—

"On the 15th August next the 400th anniversary of the discovery of Grenada will take place, for on that day of 1498 Columbus, after passing through the Strait of Boca del Dragon, which separates Trinidad from the mainland of South America, sighted the Islands of Tobago and Grenada, and called them respectively Ascension and Concepcion.

"It is my desire, which is shared by my Executive Council, to mark an anniversary of such interest and importance in the colony's history by the issue of a special 2½d. postage stamp of the design enclosed. . . . For the sale to the public I recommend an issue of 500,000 of the stamps, after which the plate can be destroyed. . . ."

The Secretary for the Colonies (then Mr. J. Chamberlain) approved of the proposal, but in consequence of postal changes the issue was limited to 240,000 copies.

The stamp was engraved and surface-printed by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. on Crown CC paper in sheets of sixty stamps, arranged in five horizontal rows of twelve, and was perforated 14. The central design represents the vessel of Columbus sighting Grenada. The Catalogue names the vessel *La Concepcion*, but is this correct? The name given to the island may have been that of one of the ships which carried Columbus and his company on the third voyage when the island was sighted, but it looks as if this were taken for granted. Information is rather obscure as to the composition of the fleet; perhaps some reader can furnish definite particulars.



August 15, 1898. Wmk. Crown CC. Perf. 14.

Unused. Used.

	s. d.	s. d.
2½d., ultramarine . . .	0 6	0 8

In 1902 the King's Head series was introduced, and it was in the familiar De La Rue tablet type, and consisted of ten values, the 8d. denomination of the Queen's Head set being dropped and three higher values — 2s., 5s., and 10s. — added. On these latter values the name is in slightly larger type than on the lower values. The wmk.,

sheet arrangement, and perforation were the same as in the Queen's Head set. The stamps were put on sale about May. The ½d., 3d., 1s., 2s., and 10s. values are in the type with uncoloured tablet of value.



1902. Name and value or tablet of value in second colour. Wmk. Crown CA, Type w 6. Perf. 14.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d., dull purple and green .	0 3	0 2
1d., " carmine .	0 3	0 1
2d., " brown .	1 0	1 0
2½d., " ultramarine .	1 6	1 6
3d., " orange .	2 0	1 6
6d., " green .	1 6	1 6
1s., green and orange .	7 6	7 6
2s., " ultramarine .	7 6	—
5s., " carmine .	—	—
10s., " purple .	—	—

In December, 1904, the 1d. appeared on multiple paper, and this was the only value issued till the December following, when the ½d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., and 1s. appeared; whilst the remaining values were put on sale in June or July of 1906. Of the above only the 3d., 6d., and 2s. are known on chalky paper.

1904-6. As 1902, but Multiple wmk.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d., purple and green (1905) .	—	—
1d., carmine (1904) .	—	—
2d., brown (1905) .	—	—
2½d., ultramarine ('05) .	—	—
3d., orange (1905) .	0 8	0 5
6d., green (1906) .	1 0	—
1s., green and orange (1905) .	2 0	—
2s., ultramarine ('06) .	6 0	—
5s., carmine (1906) .	10 0	—
10s., purple (1906) .	—	—

Many of the King's Head stamps are scarce (used copies being nearly as expensive as unused), owing to a very foolish proceeding by the Government of the colony. A new issue was decided upon in 1905, and in order, it was alleged, to stop speculation in the stamps that were to become obsolete, the entire stock of King's Head 2s., 5s., and 10s. with single watermark, and the ½d., 1d., 2d., and 2½d. stamps of the same type with single and multiple watermarks, were sometime in 1906 deliberately destroyed.

The new issue decided upon had for design the "badge" of the colony, which it will be seen consists of the vessel shown upon the commemorative stamp of 1898 and the motto "CLARIOR E TENEBRIS" (Light out of Darkness), and as there was a fair stock of all values above 2½d., only the

four lower values were issued, viz. at end of December, 1905. The stamps were printed from engraved copper plates, the 1d. in sheets of 120, two panes of sixty, and the other values in sheets of sixty, ten rows of six. The value is on an uncoloured tablet, and the paper *unsurfaced*.



1905. Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A. Perf. 14.
Unused. Used.

	s. d.	s. d.
½d., green . . .	0 1	0 2
1d., carmine . . .	0 2	0 1
2d., orange . . .	0 3	0 4
2½d., blue . . .	0 4	0 4

No alteration was made for the other values till 1908, though the stock of the 10s. King's Head ran very low, and the stamp now is a good one to have. Early in 1908 Grenada decided to adopt the colour scheme suggested for all colonies to check the fraudulent manipulation of the King Fraternity, and in April a supply of higher values of the badge design was despatched to the

colony, there being 25,000 of the 1s. and 10,000 of the 10s. on *green* paper with single wmk. As there is still a good stock of this *green* paper, the first issues of stamps printed on same will for some time be single wmk. When the stock is exhausted the multiple wmk. will be introduced. This time the stamps were *surface-printed* in doubly fugitive inks on *chalk-surfaced* paper. It will be noticed the design differs in many particulars from that of the lower values, and that the value is upon a tablet of solid colour. The stamps were issued October 1, 1908.



1908. Centre in first colour. Perf. 14.

Wmk. Crown C.A.

1s., black on *green*.
10s., green and red on *green*.

Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A.

3d., dull purple on *yellow*.
6d., " " and purple.
2s., blue and lilac on *blue*.
5s., green and red on *yellow*.

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Stock Books, and are, therefore, the Prices at which Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., will have pleasure in supplying any of the stamps that may be needed by any of our readers.

Topical Notes

By SUB

Death of Mr. E. J. Nankivell

A NOTICE of this sad event will be found in another part of this paper. There is no doubt that our late colleague will be much missed, not only in philatelic circles, but by a large number of friends outside the hobby. Our Mr. Charles J. Phillips, who alone of our staff knew "Nancy" intimately, is at present abroad, so that we are unable to publish any personal reminiscences.

Part I Catalogue

EARLY next week our publishers hope to have this on sale, and, as usual, prepaid orders will be despatched first.

Generally speaking, there are not many alterations in the lists or prices.

British New Guinea is now placed under Papua, and the list has been rewritten, and includes the different papers and watermarks. The prices have been based on a

careful study of three specialized collections we have recently purchased.

Fiji Islands has been entirely rearranged to accord with the Fiji handbook.

There has also been some revision of the colour names on the lines already detailed in Part II. The total number of pages has been increased by twelve upon the last edition.

Persia

A VERY vivid letter comes to hand from a friend of mine in Teheran. The capital and surrounding country are in a chaos. Everything is anyway and anyhow. As to the state of the postal service, his sentence "I hope you will get this letter" explains. It is franked with Persian stamps, and comes by way of Russia overland. From what my correspondent says, it is very likely that British and Russian post offices will be properly opened out soon. As it is, the

branches of the Indian Post Office are receiving most of the exterior mails that go by a route other than the Russian. The Indian stamps are, of course, not permitted in the interior for postage. Both the Russian and British Ministers have forwarded notes of the state of the National Service, so unless the British fight against a Russian Post Office, or vice versa, which is unlikely, we can possibly expect to see further chronicles of Consular post offices in the East. Whilst Persia is in mention I may draw attention to a little error in the order of the current issue in Gibbons. The values 13 ch., 26 ch., and 1 kran should properly be 13 ch., 1 kran, and 26 ch., since there are only 20 chahi in a kran. The two values 13 ch. and 26 ch. were provided for sample, packet, etc., postage. They are on a similar basis to the Levant F.P.O. stamps in centimes values.

This has been brought about on account of currency changes. A packet of samples that used to bear a 10 ch. stamp must now bear a 13 ch.; a 1 kran stamp must now be replaced by a 26 ch.

It is only a short time ago since the Persian currency so dropped as to occasion the 10 ch. stamp being replaced by a 13 ch.

Victoria 6d., orange, 1854

WILL any philatelists who have single copies, pairs, strips, or blocks of the above stamp, or of the 6d., black, of the same type, used or unused, and in any condition, be kind enough to lend them for the purpose of plating? The greatest care will be taken of them, and they will be returned within a week. The stamps should be sent to Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand.

Death of Mr. E. J. Nankivell

IT is with the deepest regret we have to record the death of Mr. Edward James Nankivell, which occurred suddenly at his residence, Tunbridge Wells, on Thursday, March 18, and to which we briefly referred in our last number.

Mr. Nankivell had not been very well for some little while previously, but the fatal termination to his indisposition was most unlooked for, and the sudden end, due to *angina pectoris*, came as a terrible shock to all his friends.

His death means the loss to Philately of one of its notable men and to philatelic journalism of one of its ablest and most prolific writers.

Mr. Nankivell was born at Perranzabuloe, on the north coast of Cornwall, on September 17, 1848, and was educated privately, mostly in Ireland. He took up shorthand when he left school, and eventually drifted into journalism.

For years he was recognized as one of the chief experts on shorthand, and both his writing of this and his ordinary calligraphy were marvels of neatness.

In 1871 he came to London. For several years he was on the editorial staff of the Central News, his first professional note being of a great speech of Disraeli's at the Crystal Palace.

Subsequently he was invited to join the editorial staff of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, then under the editorship of Mr. John Morley, and was a colleague of Mr. W. T. Stead, Sir (then Mr.) Alfred Milner, and Mr. E. T. Cook. For several years he filled the position of City editor.

His was one of the hands that brought about the compulsory confinement of the

man who schemed the famous Hotel Cecil—Jabez Balfour. This was probably one of the greatest scoops he had. A scoop is the ambition of a journalist. One has only to turn up the files of the *Postage Stamp*, the creation of our late friend, to see the vein of many articles. Any copy that promised a "stir" was ever dear to his heart.

During his career on the *Pall Mall Gazette* Mr. Nankivell was given the duty of taking the report of Lord Carnarvon's speech criticizing the course of Gladstone's surrender to Kruger. Evidently "the earth was in a state to receive the seed," for, to the dismay of his Liberal co-thinkers, our late friend expressed the opinion that some day we should have a recurrence of the same trouble. He was right, though hardly foreseeing the correct cause.

A philatelist since his almost pre-school days, this Transvaal controversy naturally turned his attention to the stamps of the country, and E. J. N. proceeded quietly to gather together a more than ordinary collection of Transvaal stamps. The rest is known to most of us, and the sale to our publishers of this very fine collection for a large sum.

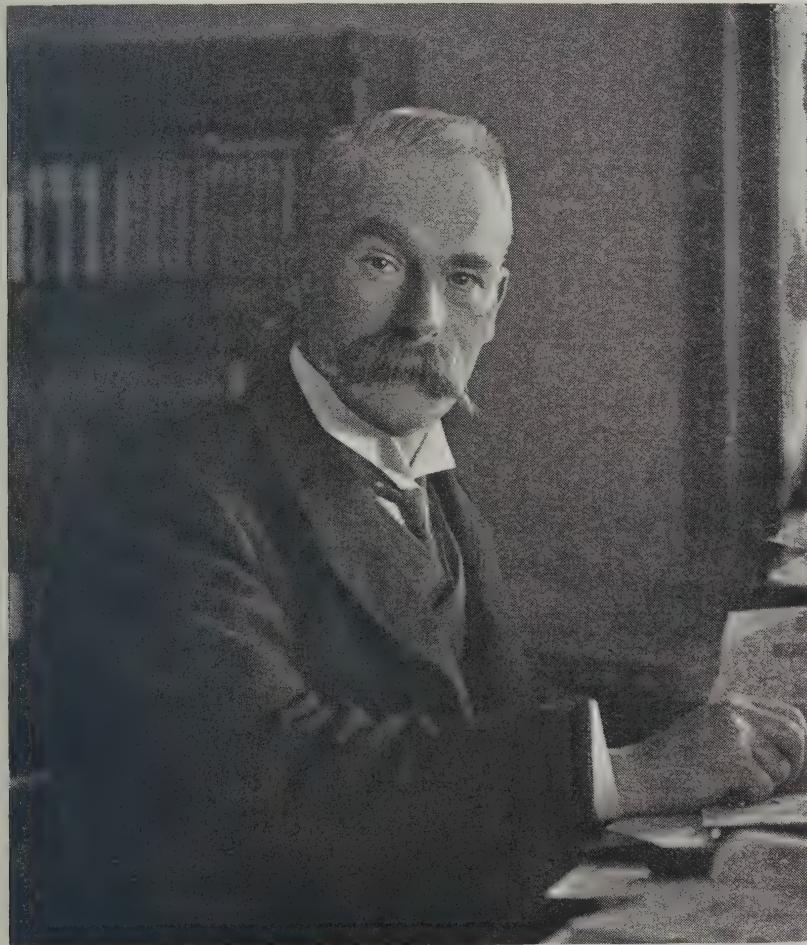
After this great sale in 1903, Mr. Nankivell selected a beautiful spot in Kent, and built himself a house—out of stamps. Once more his political mind directed his attention to a country undergoing the scrutiny of a political controversy. This time it was the land of the Pharaohs. He also paid particular attention to the stamps of China and New Zealand, and kept up a general collection for reference purposes.

He may be said to have started his philatelic career in 1881, when he joined the

Philatelic Society of London, on the invitation of Mr. E. D. Bacon, and since then had devoted his pen to philatelic writing and the conduct of the *Reporter's Magazine*, of which he was proprietor and editor.

Mr. Nankivell attained his philatelic literary popularity in the nineties, when it was

the *Philatelic Journal of India*, edited the stamp pages of *The Captain*, and for some time those of *The Connoisseur*; and when *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* was launched was its first editor, resigning in 1907 to start the *Postage Stamp*, to which reference has already been made.



(Reproduced by kind permission of "The Captain.")

on record that he had more copy published in English and American journals than any given three other philatelic writers in an equal time.

On the resignation of Mr. W. A. S. Westoby in January, 1896, Mr. Nankivell undertook the editorship of the *Philatelic Record*, into which he introduced several new features, and carried it on for some time, until it was taken over by a group of Manchester philatelists. For years he wrote the English letter for the *American Journal of Philately* and

His contributions possessed a vivacity and terseness which were remarkable, and his expressions of opinion were in the main sound. As a writer of short newsy paragraphs he had no equal in the Philatelic Press, and he appealed to a very large circle of readers. His dry humour, voiced under different *noms - de - plume*, e.g. Cornelius Wrinkle, O. Reginald Gum, Sir Charge Wakatipu, etc., will be much missed, as indeed will also his genial personality.

W. P. B.

Abyssinia and the Post Office

THE following extract from *St. Martin's-le-Grand* for January last should be of interest at the present time:—

The Postal Service established in Abyssinia in 1895 by Alfred Ilg, a Swiss engineer, has, we learn, recently been taken over by the State and reorganized on the model of that of European countries. There is, further, now both a Postal, Telegraph, and Telephone Service.

The Postal Service comprises the forwarding of ordinary and registered letters, post cards, book packets, and samples. The Abyssinian Service obtains connection with the outer world through the agency of the French Somali Coast Post Office via Djibouti. From here there is a railway skirting the mountains of Southern Abyssinia, via Diredua, to the important trade centre of Harrar.

Between the Diredua Post Office (which serves as a Frontier Exchange Office) and Harrar there is a service every two days, while between Harrar and Adis Abeba, the capital, there are five posts a month by mounted messengers. Under favourable conditions a letter from Adis Abeba for Europe reaches its destination in twenty-eight days; if, however, the weather is bad or the connections are missed, then it takes forty days. When a post is about to depart, anywhere, the Postmaster makes this known to the public by running up on his office the Abyssinian flag.

A letter can be sent for 2d., a post card for $\frac{1}{2}$ d., a book packet 2d., samples from 4d. Parcels for 4s. every 2 lb., minimum charge 8s., maximum weight 20 lb., registration fee 2d.

Letters, etc., from Abyssinia for abroad have to be franked with French Somali Coast postage stamps, failing this on delivery they would be taxed as unpaid. No charge

is collected in Abyssinia on the delivery of foreign letters and post cards; for book packets and samples, however, a charge is made. All registered letters for Abyssinia have to be addressed to the Poste Restante, Adis Abeba, whence, on receipt of a special request from addressee, they can be delivered to his address.

While letters, etc., for Adis Abeba are delivered by postal messenger, those for the interior are handed over for delivery, as the occasion arises, to suitable messengers who hold themselves in readiness to take them. The existence on hand of such letters at Adis Abeba is made known by their being exhibited in a glazed case at the Post Office there. Provincial governors send special messengers into Adis Abeba for their letters, as must also any Europeans travelling up country.

In opposition to their usual sequence in other countries, in Abyssinia the telephone came into use before the post, and after the post, the telegraphs.

The telephone line from Adis Abeba to Harrar was in use a year before even the Private Post was inaugurated. The Telegraph Service dates from 1903, and was managed by the Harrar to Djibouti Railway, along whose line it ran, and connects up from there by cable with Obock and the outer world.

Since 1904 there has also existed from Adis Abeba an Italian telegraph line to Kassala and a 375-miles-long telephone line to Kassa. A telephone line is also being constructed between Adis Abeba and Benadir. While there are telephone offices in all the more important places and on the railway, the use of the telephone is yet during the mornings exclusively reserved for Court and Governmental purposes, the public having access only in the afternoon.

The Provisional Stamps of Peru during the Chilian Occupation

Translated from *L'Echo de Timbrologie*, by NORMAN THORNTON

(Continued from page 207.)

WHEN on October 23, 1883, the Chilian troops evacuated Peru, the State's finances were exhausted; a large number of towns and villages, rich before the war, were now ruined; the majority of the inhabitants had abandoned their homes, and commercial undertakings were at a standstill. The postal organizations had suffered enormously, and all the work which

had been undertaken before the war had now to be done all over again.

As regards franking arrangements, the Administration confined itself to reissuing the remaining stamps of the 1874-9 issue, which were redistributed to the various offices after receiving the horseshoe overprint already described. The values 1 c., green, 2 c., vermilion, and 5 c., blue, were the only stamps to receive this overprint, which quickly gave way to one of a triangular

shape, with the word "PERU" in the centre, surrounded by a sun.



The provisional issues of 1883 with this triangular overprint deserve considerable attention, for this surcharge exists in five types, differing as follows:—

a. The triangle has a double inner line; the word "PERU" measures $1\frac{1}{2} \times 6\frac{3}{4}$ mm.

b. The inner lines are ended by ornaments, and the sun has a small circle in the centre; the word "PERU" measures $1\frac{1}{2} \times 6\frac{3}{4}$ mm.

c. The inner lines also end in ornaments, but the word "PERU" measures $2 \times 7\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

d. The inner and outer lines are joined by the ornaments; the outside of the frame measures 17 mm., and "PERU" $1\frac{3}{4} \times 7$ mm.

e. As last, but frame measures $18\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

NOTE.—Our publishers give only four types, omitting *e.*

All these overprints were applied in black on the stamp of 1875-83 except the triangle *b*, which was overprinted in blue on the 10 c., green, and 50 c., green. They are divided as follows:—

Type *a*: 1 c., yellow; 5 c., blue; 10 c., green; 50 c., green; 1 sol, rose.

Type *b*: 1 c., yellow; 5 c., blue; 10 c., green; 50 c., green; 1 sol, rose.

Type *c*: 1 c., yellow; 2 c., violet; 20 c., carmine; 50 c., green; 1 sol, rose.

Type *d*: 1 c., yellow; 10 c., green; 50 c., green; 1 sol, rose.

Type *e*: 2 c., violet; 5 c., blue; 10 c., green.

[Gibbons' Nos. 102 to 107; see also note re "blue" overprint.]

The following varieties also exist:—1 c., yellow, overprint *b* double in black; 2 c., violet, overprint *d* double; 1 c. and 5 c., overprint *a* inverted.



3

4



5

Towards the end of 1883, stamps of the 1874-9 issue appeared (I) with overprint Type 3, without the triangle; (II) with Type 4 and triangle; (III) with triangle only; (IV) with Type 5 and triangle.

(I) Triangular overprint with Type 3—

1 c., green, Type 3,	in red, with triangles	<i>a</i> ,	<i>b</i> ,	<i>c</i> ,	<i>d</i>
2 c., carmine	"	"	"	"	"

The 1 c. with triangle *d* exists with Type 3 inverted.

(II) Triangle overprint with Type 4—

1 c., green, Type 4,	in red, with triangle	<i>d</i>				
2 c., carmine	"	"				
2 c., "	"	"				
5 c., blue	"	"	<i>a</i> ,	<i>b</i> ,	<i>c</i> ,	<i>d</i>
5 c., "	"	"	"	"	"	"
6 c., "	"	"	"	"	"	"
10 c., rose	"	"	"	"	"	"
50 c., green	"	"	"	"	"	"
1 sol	"	"	"	"	"	"

The 1 c., green, exists also with triangle *d* inverted.

(III) With triangle only—

1 c., orange, triangles	.	<i>a</i> ,	<i>b</i> ,	<i>c</i> ,	and <i>d</i>
					and <i>d</i> double
1 c., green	"	.	<i>c</i>		
2 c., violet	"	.	<i>c</i>		
5 c., blue	"	.	<i>a</i> ,	<i>d</i> ,	and <i>e</i>
5 c., ultramarine	"	.	<i>a</i> ,	<i>b</i> ,	and <i>e</i>
10 c., green	"	.	<i>a</i> ,	<i>b</i> ,	and <i>e</i>
20 c., carmine	"	.	<i>c</i>		
50 c., green	"	.	<i>a</i> ,	<i>b</i> ,	and <i>d</i>
1 sol, rose	"	.	<i>a</i> ,	<i>b</i> ,	and <i>d</i>

(IV) Triangular overprint with Type 5—

1 c., green, Type 4,	in red, with triangle	<i>c</i>
2 c., violet	"	"



6

From April 28, 1884, certain stamps of the issues of 1874-81 were again put into circulation struck with the overprint here shown, in black; the following values only

were so treated : 1 c., orange ; 1 c., green ; 2 c., violet ; 2 c., carmine ; 5 c., blue.

The 1 c., orange, and 1 c., green, were also overprinted with Type 3 in blue independently of overprint Type 6 in black. Lastly, towards the end of 1884, the 1 c., orange, 1 c., green, and 2 c., violet were used with double overprints, Types 5 in red and 6 in black.

NOTE.—Gibbons only recognizes the 5 c., blue, with overprint Type 6. Cat. No. 122.

The issue of these numerous provisionals is explained by a fact which should be mentioned here, and which appeared in a report by the Postal Administration of Peru.

Before the commencement of hostile operations the Postal Administration ordered from the American Bank Note Co. of New York a large supply of stamps, which underwent strange adventures. Having been

despatched at the moment when the Chilian troops occupied the country, a portion of the consignment, notably the stamps for use on foreign mails, when near Chimbotta fell into the hands of a Chilian warship, which seized them from the vessel which carried them.

Although their arrival at Callao was delayed, the post cards, which formed part of the consignment, escaped the Chilians ; they were forwarded to the department of Yca, where they were kept in safety until the evacuation of Peru. The rest of the consignment, which comprised a supply of stamps for interior postage, escaped the enemy, thanks to the intervention of two English firms who cabled to Guayaquil, the port of Ecuador, in order to prevent the vessel from the north taking the stamps to Callao, and causing them to be delivered at Guayaquil, and they remained in Ecuador until the conclusion of hostilities.

(To be continued.)

The Postage Stamps of Belgium—contd.

By CH. DE BONT

(Continued from page 205.)

ISSUE OF 1884-6.

THE stamps issued in 1883 did not remain in use very long, as only a few months later they were superseded by a new type. The following decrees authorized the change :—



“Ministry of Public Works.

“Administration of Posts and Telegraphs.

“Leopold II, King of the Belgians,

“To all who are present, and to those to come

“GREETING.

“Having regard to paragraph 40 of the Law of May 30, 1879, authorizing the Government to issue stamps, etc.;

“And having regard to Our Decrees of November 13, 1869, and August 20, 1883, fixing the designs of the present postage stamps ;

“At the request of Our Minister of Public Works :

“WE HAVE DECREED AND DO DECREE :

“1. The designs for postage stamps, fixed by Our Decree of August 20, 1883, mentioned above, for stamps of a value of 10 centimes and upwards, will be replaced by other designs bearing Our Effigy.

2. “Our Minister of Public Works is authorized to determine the values, colours, and dates of

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issue of the stamps and post office franking formulæ in general.

“Our Minister of Public Works is commanded to see that the terms of this Decree be carried out.

“Given at Brussels, June 9, 1884.

“LEOPOLD.

“By the King.

“The Minister of Public Works.

“(Signed) X. Olin.”

“THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS.

“Pursuant to the Royal Decree of June 9, 1884, ordering the manufacture of postage stamps of a new design and authorizing the Minister of Public Works to determine the values, colours, and dates of issue of the stamps and post office franking formulæ in general :—

“IT IS DECREED :—

“1. The new one franc postage stamp is to be issued on June 15, and the 10 centimes on July 15, next. The colour of the former will be red-brown, and of the latter carmine.

“2. On July 1 next a 1 centime postage stamp and a 5 centime post card will be issued in the designs now in use. The colour of the stamp will be grey; the card will be printed in green, and will carry a revised inscription.

“Brussels, June 10, 1884.

“(Signed) X. OLIN.”

“SPECIAL ORDER.

“No. 78/70. June 10, 1884.

“Decrees having been promulgated, authorizing postage stamps of new design, and the issue of two of these stamps: i.e. the 1 franc on June 15, and the 10 centimes on July 15

"There will be despatched to all post offices a certain quantity of the new 1 franc stamps.

"The other values will be despatched with the regular requisitions.

"On no account must any of the new stamps be sold before the dates mentioned above.

"All officers will endeavour to get rid of any stock of the stamps before using the new ones, always provided that persons specially desiring the new stamps must be supplied with them.

"The Director-General,
"(Signed) VINCENT."

"No. 1741.

"Posts No. 916. Telegraphs No. 623.

"Issue of a New Postage Stamp.

"THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, POSTS,
"AND TELEGRAPHHS.

"In pursuance to the Royal Decree of June 9, 1884, ordering the manufacture of postage stamps of a new design, and authorizing the Minister of Public Works to determine the values, colours, and dates of issue of the stamps and post office franking formulae in general:—

"IT IS DECREED:—

"I. A new 25 centime postage stamp of a blue colour is to be issued on January 1, 1885.

"Brussels, December 22, 1884.

"(Signed) J. VANDENPEEREBOOM.

(To be continued.)

"No. 1777.

Post: No. 943.

"Issue of New Postage Stamps.

"THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, POSTS,
"AND TELEGRAPHHS.

"In pursuance to the Royal Decree of June 9, 1884, ordering:—

"IT IS DECREED:—

"I. The following postage stamps are to be issued on January 1, 1886:—

"A 20 centimes stamp, colour reseda.

"A 50 " " brownish yellow.

"A two francs " " violet.

"Brussels, December 23, 1885.

"(Signed) J. VANDENPEEREBOOM."

The stamps of this issue were engraved in Paris by Monsieur E. Mouchon. They were surface-printed in colour on white paper which had been previously prepared with a ground colour. The head of Leopold II, turned towards the left, appears on each stamp in a circle, but the frame is different in each value.

The perforation of these stamps gauges exactly 14. In the lower right-hand portion, just in front of the figure, can be seen the letters "E.M." which were the initials of the engraver; in the beard are certain control marks, viz. "R 7" and "35".

This issue is particularly interesting as regards the numerous printings which took place, extending, in fact, right up to 1893, and also because of the varying shades of ink used for the ground colour.

The Provisional 2½d. Stamp of Jamaica

By W. BUCKLAND EDWARDS, B.Sc.

WHEN I first read the article by Dr. Stanley Taylor on the provisional 2½d. stamp of Jamaica, which appeared in this magazine in November last, the interest of the subject at once appealed to me, and I forthwith decided to try to plate the stamps according to the excellent plates given, in order, if possible, to settle some of the points then left undetermined. In this I have been fairly successful, though still far from complete in the stamps themselves, and my researches are now brought before the readers of *G.S.W.* who may possibly be interested therein. Let me say at the outset that I claim no distinction for any discovery that I may have made, since the really hard work had already been done. It is a comparatively easy matter to add to or correct pioneer work of this description, and all the credit must belong to the originator of it.

The points to be discussed are the order of the two settings, the types of the vertically printed setting, and the relative value of the different types.

Order of Settings.

The date of issue was May 29, 1890. My earliest dated copy is postmarked June 4, 1890, only six days later, and my next date is July 14. Both these stamps antedate Dr. Taylor's earliest obliteration by many weeks, and both belong to the so-called *second* setting. Furthermore, I have a pair with Kingston postmark, March 10, 1891, and singles with dates March 24 and April 20 of the same year, all from the so-called *first* setting. These dates are strongly in favour of a reversal of the settings, and the fact that stamps from the vertically printed setting are far commoner than the others bears me out, for no doubt the first printing

would be the larger, and most of the dealers' importations would come from this stock. Exhaustion of this printing would account for a further requisition, probably smaller, since the permanent issue would be looked for in due course. If this issue were called for at short notice the occurrence of errors would be explicable, hence I do not agree with Dr. Taylor in placing the horizontal setting first "on account of the errors it contains"; in any case, for the reason just given, the argument may well be used in support of my own contention.

The Types of the Vertical Setting.

These are by no means so easy to define as the types of the horizontal setting, and I may be foolish in attempting to do what Dr. Taylor has left alone. There are no broken letters, but several thick ones, and the position of the letter "T" over the "H" must be noted; even then my description of Nos. 2-4 may stand in need of future correction. The differences in the types are as follows:—

Type 1. Final "E" in "PENCE" is slightly raised; the second foot of "W" is short. The first feature is constant, but the *first* stamp does not seem to show the short "W" (*vide* Plate G in No. 202 *G.S.W.*).

Type 2. Thick "E" in "PENCE."

Type 3. Thick "N" in "PENCE."

Type 4. Thick "F" in "HALF."

These features may not be constant, but the *exact* position of the final "E" in "PENCE" over the "NY" below will greatly help, as reference to the plate will show. The remaining types are easy.

Type 5. Thick "L," and thick "E" in "PENNY."

Type 6. Thick "O" in "TWO."

All the above six types have the letter "T" slightly to the *left* of the second down-stroke of the "H" below.

Type 7. "T" to *right* of "H" below.

Type 8. "T" over second down-stroke of "H," and thick.

Type 9. "T" over second down-stroke of "H," but thin.

Type 10. "T" to *right* of "H," thick "L" in "HALF."

These thick letters probably arose from their slight depression below the general type surface, which gave them more ink; all my copies show that this feature may safely be taken as a guide, but Nos. 2-4 require confirmation.

The Relative Value of the Types.

Since all the stamps of both settings can be typed, they are all of equal rarity, sub-

ject to the fact that more sheets of the vertical setting were issued. This statement is only theoretically correct, for practically speaking only specialists desirous of plating would notice all the minute differences described, so that I have only to arrange in order such types as would appeal to the advanced general collector.

Half the stamps of the horizontal setting are spaced $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm. between the words "TWO PENCE" and "HALF-PENNY," all the others being spaced 1 mm. This difference is noticeable at sight, hence the "normal" stamp with wider spacing is a real variety, and worth four or five times as much as the other. The error "PFNNY" has suffered in value through the existence of the two broken "E" varieties, which in the later printings, as shown in Plate F, form pseudo "PF" errors. The true error may, however, be at once distinguished by having the "T" to the *left* of the second down-stroke of "H," instead of to the right, as in the other cases. Both the pseudo errors arise from broken letters, as I can prove from the copies in my possession, although Dr. Taylor says that No. 6 is "probably due to bad ink." I have the stamp with the "E" complete, with the bottom limb sorely in need of a tonic, and, again, with only the extreme end left like a full stop (*vide* Plate F, No. 6 in top row).

The defective "W" exists in both settings, and is the only minor variety worth mentioning in the vertically set stamps; the thick letters are only of importance for plating. The order of merit comes out as follows:—

No. 1. "K" for "Y" in "PENNY" (Gibbons' 39b).

No. 2. Same stamp with "K" broken (39c).

No. 3. "F" for "E" in "PENNY" (39a).

No. 4. Broken "E" in "PENNY."

No. 5. Normal stamp spaced $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm. between lines of surcharge.

No. 6. Short second foot in "W."

No. 7. Normal stamp spaced 1 mm.

If the broken "E" in "PENNY" making the "PL" variety be considered distinct enough (No. 12), it will rank with the "PF" error, otherwise with the other broken "E" varieties.

In conclusion, I desire to draw my readers' attention to the value of *used* stamps, the neglect of which is so common to-day, and without which I should not have been able to refer to the first of the three points discussed above. The importance of dated copies will not decrease as time goes on, as they are frequently the only means available of arriving at a settlement of disputed points.

Greek Stamps used in Turkey

By W. N. WYETH

AS so much has been said about English stamps used abroad, it may be interesting to know that other countries' stamps are, and were, used the same way. It is well known to a lot of advanced philatelists that Greek stamps were used in this way. I write this more especially to arouse a greater interest and thereby bring out further details of which I am ignorant. They were first brought to my attention by Dr. Emilio Diena of Rome. I am unable to give any historic facts concerning them, but hope something will now come out about them. Possessors of large collections find it hard to add to their treasures, therefore I think this would be a very good field to explore. Almost every large or small dealer's stock contains some of these stamps.

My earliest specimen is dated in 1863, and latest in 1880.

The cancellation is a circle containing the town name, date, and the word ΤΟΤΡΚΙΑ at bottom, excepting in Alexandria, Egypt, where both this name and No. 97 is found; also in those used on Crete, the town name and No. 163 is found.

ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΙΑ is Alexandria.

ΚΩΝΣΤΑΝΤΙΝΟΥΠΟΛΙΣ is Constantinople.

Also ΚΩΝΣΤΑΝΤΙΝ " "

ΘΕΣΣΑΛΟΝΙΚΗ is Salonika.

ΣΜΥΡΝΑ is Smyrna.

ΒΟΛΑΟΣ is Volo.

ΙΩΑΝΝΙΝΑ is Janina.

XANIA and ΠΕΘΜΝΟΝ are Cretan town names.

These are all I have found; there is no doubt there are others.

The Boy Collector

By TIM BROLOGIE

ONE of the outstanding features of the highly successful Manchester Exhibition was the strong and intelligent interest evinced by the younger members of the stamp-collecting fraternity. The proportion of boys and girls amongst the thousands of visitors was very large, so large at times, in fact, that it became well-nigh impossible to move about the hall without encountering groups of enthusiastic youngsters. That it was not merely idle curiosity coupled with the bait of a free show that attracted these youngsters was evidenced by the great keenness shown by them. Intelligent questions were asked, familiar and unfamiliar stamps were noted, while not a few were taking notes. Some of the dealers were besieged by crowds of boys, and there must have been a splendid sale of the commoner stamps at any rate.

All this is very promising for the future of the hobby, for the boy and girl collectors of the present day are the "great moguls" of to-morrow. It must be plainly evident to every one, though, that there must be an enormous number of boys and girls who cease to collect stamps somewhere in their teens, for certainly not more than five per cent of these youthful collectors continue their hobby as they grow older, and so do nothing to swell the ranks of active philatelists. Those of us who are concerned in the matter of obtaining recruits to Philately are decidedly of opinion that a good proportion of this loss is preventable.

No doubt a boy collects stamps, to commence with, as he collects football-cards or tram-tickets—from the pure joy of accumulation. As he grows older he finds that stamp collecting costs a good deal of money if followed in anything like an efficient manner (that is, of course, a good deal of money to the boy of sixteen or seventeen, who is usually *in extremis* as far as £ s. d. is concerned). In the ordinary course of things he has collected without any real system, and he begins to feel that he has wasted a good deal of money on his collection. Perhaps he offers his collection to a dealer for sale and is disgusted at the amount offered. No doubt there is a wide disparity between the amount of money a beginner expends on his collection of a thousand or two and the sum a dealer will offer for it. This is largely due to the fact that the boy collector has no one from whom to get advice, with the result that his money is not expended to the best advantage.

Undoubtedly the remedy is to give the young philatelist more attention: more attention in our Press, in our societies, and in our catalogues and general literature.

Probably at no time in philatelic history was the young collector better looked after and catered for than at the present juncture, but there is still plenty of room for improvement in this direction. The Manchester Exhibition has shown us what can be done in this matter. Let us take heart from it and institute others of the same style.

Our Philatelic Press should devote more space to this class of collector, though, of course, *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* has done admirable work during this last year or two, and has set a worthy example to its contemporaries.

Our philatelic societies ought to cater more for the beginner. The average evening's entertainment of a philatelic society's meeting does not commend itself to these people, who are often frightened away from

the hobby on seeing some of the highly "bloated" shows of the advanced specialist.

Now is the time to work with the juniors; there never was a time when such interest was shown in the hobby by boys. I speak with knowledge of this matter, coming into daily contact with hundreds. Let us do what we can to prevent so many thousands retiring from our hobby in disgust, and we shall have our reward in seeing the number of serious collectors multiplied tenfold.

American Notes

By EUSTACE B. POWER

THE first thing I would like to write in these notes is a word of thanks to the many, I might say very many readers of *G.S.W.* and clients of our American branch who have so kindly inquired from time to time concerning my illness. Taken dangerously ill on November 20, I have only now just managed to crawl back to work. Mr. Taft in Washington and myself therefore get into harness together, the only difference being that I know what I'm up against, and Mr. Taft probably does not. However, the sunny skies of Bermuda and the cheery letters from the Czar have pulled me round again; and those readers who are weak-minded enough to read my notes are in for another dose.

Bermuda

Speaking of Bermuda reminds me that I ransacked the island for the famous "Perot" stamp without success. I found people who had had an intimate friend whose best friend had one, etc., but no actual quarry did I bring to earth. Mr. Perot, Postmaster of Hamilton in 1848, was in the habit of leaving a small wooden box outside the old post office, into which those desirous to mail letters dropped the missive plus one penny in cash. It seems that sometimes there were twelve letters and only eight pennies, etc., and this made Mr. Perot "tired," as we say over here. So the famous stamps were made by impressing the cancellation mark, together with a manuscript addition of "One Penny. W. B. Perot," and these were sold just as stamps are sold to-day. I am greatly indebted for many kindnesses shown me by Mr. Cecil Tucker, Postmaster-General, and Mr. V. O. Brown, Postmaster of the old capital, St. George's. Mr. Brown entertained me royally, and showed me the old Masonic Lodge, founded in 1797, and many interesting old sets of china, etc., that are still the property of the lodge and used for banquets. If I hadn't been a brother Mason myself I'd have stolen that china for my own use!

United States

We're going in for the usual Central American games just now right here in the glorious States of ours. It seems that almost everything is turning up in an unperforated condition. Long ago we had the 1 c. and 2 c. of the now obsolete series of 1902. Then, when the new "Houdon" issue came in, we were treated to some 1 c. and 2 c. of this issue imperf. Curiously enough we secured, a few weeks ago, four hundred of the 5 c., 1902 series, imperf. Advices to my sick-room told me there were 12,000, and taking these figures as correct, we advertised pairs for half a dollar. It seems that the 12,000 was an error for *twelve hundred* and the other eight hundred being cut up for the automatic machines, we appear to have had the only supply available in New York. Consequently we offered to buy these pairs back at three dollars, and now the price is five dollars per pair. Reverting to the "Houdon" issue, we have now had the following:—1 c., 2 c. Washington, 2 c. Lincoln, 3 c., 4 c., and 5 c., all imperf.

Shades of U.S. 1902

The last printings of this issue, now obsolete, show very marked shades, and I would advise collectors to carefully shade up these stamps before some of the tints become very hard to get.

An Interesting Book

It has just been my good fortune to secure the original scrap-book belonging to S. Allan Taylor. Old collectors, those who bought stamps in the sixties, will well remember S. Allan Taylor as a dealer who sold all kinds of stamps. The old book contains very interesting old price lists of 1863-70, and many business cards and mementoes of stamp men and firms long ago forgotten.

Death of F. N. Massoth

It is with regret that I have to announce the death of our Chicago agent, Mr. Frank N. Massoth. In poor health for some time, he went to Texas in the hope that change of air and scene would prove beneficial, but without avail. The United Stamp Company, Chicago, still remain our agents, and our publications can all be seen at their offices in the Marquette Building.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly, Volumes I and II

I am still in need of a few copies to complete our binding files. My last note on this subject brought me a few from England, so I again list some wants in the hope they may be offered to me. I still want—

Volume I :—Two copies of 3, six copies of 5, one copy of 8.

Volume II :—One copy of 7, two copies of 12, six copies of 19, two copies of 21, one copy of 27, and eight titles and indices.

Foreign Notes

Foreign Post Offices in the Turkish Empire

THE change in Austro-Turkish political relations brings about the immediate abolition of the three Austrian post offices in Adrianopolis, Gallipoli, and Rodosto respectively. This, according to the *Deutsche Orient-Korrespondenz*, is regarded in Constantinople as the beginning of the end of the present arrangement under which Austria has as many as thirty-three offices in Turkey. At the above-mentioned places the Austrian are the only foreign post offices; in other towns the Austrian offices will only be closed when those of the other Powers are abolished.

It is said that the closing of the offices in question is to be considered as part of the Austrian compensation to Turkey for the annexation of Bosnia-Herzegovina, and it is computed that the net loss resulting to the Austrian exchequer will be about half a million krona per annum, somewhere near £20,000. The recent boycott of all things Austrian has naturally had a prejudicial effect upon these takings, but the resultant gain has not been to the Turkish but to the Italian offices.

For some time the Turkish post offices have been more efficiently managed than in former years, and especially during the last two years great improvements have taken place.

Nipped in the Bud

THE *Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung* has the following information :—

"In 1849 Hungary became a crown-land of Austria, and it was not until after the Austro-German war of 1867 that it again had an independent postal department. Hungarian philatelists desired to commemorate the forty years of postal independence with a special jubilee series, and to this end forwarded a request on the subject to the Minister of Commerce, Herr Kossuth. On July 23, 1907, the Hunnia Society received the following reply from the Ministry.

"In reply to the suggestion for a special memorial series the Minister begs to inform the Society that the request cannot be complied with. Several international congresses have considered

the question of commemorative issues and the majority of representatives have set their faces against them. The Hungarian Ministry has also taken up this position, and is of the opinion that the issue of such memorial stamps is incompatible with the position which the Hungarian Post occupies in the Postal Union."

It is good news that the Ministry is so emphatically opposed to this request and refuses to add its quota to the superfluity of philatelic *demi-mondes*. [This last is a *bon-mot* pleasingly apt.—Ed. *G.S.W.*] At the same time the *Illustriertes Briefmarken-Zeitung* has an announcement which rather takes the gilt off the ginger-bread, to the effect that the Ministry has ordered from a native artist designs for a new regular issue, and that this gentleman thinks of taking the present Bosnian issue as his model.

Peru

THE projected new stamps mentioned in *G.S.W.*, August 8, 1908, are stated by two of our French contemporaries to be "now ready," and their issue may be expected shortly.

They have been manufactured by the American Bank Note Co., New York, a guarantee that their execution will be good. The postage stamps are of a uniform small size and follow the description given in the above number of *G.S.W.*

There are to be three Official stamps, showing the Arms of the Republic in a circle, of the following values—1 c., rose, 10 c., buff, and 50 c., green.

The Postage Due set (1 c., 5 c., 10 c., and 50 c., all of a rose colour) will not be triangular in shape as suggested, but rectangular—the design being simply the figure of value in a double circle with the word "DEFICIT" below.

Altogether a much more workmanlike series than that at present in course.

Bolivia

THERE has been some confusion in the listing of the issues of 1887 and 1890, and, as will be seen by a reference to the New Issue

columns, what was supposed to be a new printing from the old plates of 1867 is merely a reissue of the stock of 1890, pending the issue of an entirely new set.

This new series was ordered from Buenos Aires last December, and is to be issued early in May, and though to be in use during 1909 and 1910, will partake more of the nature of a commemorative issue, 1909 being the centenary of the War of Independence. According to *Le Journal des Philatelistes*, the set will comprise seven values bearing portraits and dates as follows:—

- 1 c., Miguel Betanzos, Nov. 10, 1810.
- 2 c., Ignacio Warnes, Nov. 27, 1815.
- 5 c., Pedro Domingo Murillo, July 16, 1809.
- 10 c., Bernardo Monteagudo, May 25, 1809.
- 20 c., Esteban Arze, Sept. 14, 1810.
- 50 c., José Antonio Sucre, Dec. 9, 1824.
- 1 bol., Simon Bolivar, Aug. 6, 1824.

The stamps will all have the inscription "CENTENARIO DE LA GUERRA DE INDEPENDENCIA."

Meanwhile, it is said, various fiscal stamps without any distinguishing overprint are allowed to be used for postage.

Abyssinia and French Somali Coast

SUPPLEMENTING the particulars to be found on another page of this number it is interesting to glean from *Le Journal des Philatelistes* some details of the postal traffic of French Somali Coast.

During 1907 (the latest statistics published only go as far as this) the colony despatched 20,964 registered letters, of which 10,011 were for France, and 440 letters with value declared, of which 240 were for France. It received 9277 registered letters and 169 with value declared, of which 4440 and 139 respectively came from France.

The postal establishment consists of an accountant-general, an inspector, three receivers, and two native servants.

The amount realized in 1907 by the sale of French Somali Coast stamps and Obock stamps (for these were still unexhausted in 1907) was about 35,000 fr.

When Abyssinia has thoroughly organized its postal establishment a large proportion of such receipts must necessarily be lost to the colony.

Bavaria

ACCORDING to *Champion's Bulletin* the stamps for this kingdom are to be modified. They have not been changed in design for forty years, and a commission appointed to consider the question has not been able to make any satisfactory recommendation. The stamps, therefore, are to remain of the same design as at present, but to save expense in printing the shield will appear in colour, surface-printed, instead of in plain white embossing.

China Commemorative

A VAGUE notice appears in many of our contemporaries that a commemorative stamp is to be issued shortly. No one seems to know what notable event is to be commemorated. Let us hope that the anticipation is rumour only.

South Australia. Change of Printer

The Australian Philatelist (11.1.09) opine that the transfer of Mr. Cook, Government stamp printer of Adelaide, to Melbourne will most likely mean an alteration in the designs of South Australian stamps and the disappearance of the paper with the South Australian type of watermark Crown and A

More Commemoratives

Der Philatelist (15.1.09) learns from a correspondent that the committee in charge of the arrangements to celebrate the centenary of the declaration of Chilean Independence has decided upon the issue of a special set of stamps "with portraits and landscapes."

The Republic of Chili threw off allegiance to the Crown of Spain by the Declaration of Independence of Sept. 18, 1810, finally freeing itself from the yoke of Spain in 1818. Presumably if the project is carried through these precious stamps are due September twelvemonth, but if the news as to "portraits and landscapes" is true collectors may hope to ignore the issue, since the law of Chili as regards postage stamps is that the design shall always consist of a "portrait of Columbus."

New Italian 15 c.

Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Postes (March) is informed by its Bologna correspondent that "the Government Bank-note Printing Works at Turin is shortly to print 100 millions of a new 15 c. stamp, engraved on steel by Signor Repettati from a design of Signor Michetti, and that these new stamps may be expected within a few weeks."

Other stamps designed by Michetti are to be also printed by a similar process, under the direction of a skilled English mechanic who has been specially engaged by the Minister of the Treasury.

Norway

ACCORDING to *Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Postes* (March) the Norwegians are not satisfied with the portrait of their monarch on the high-value stamps and that an improved representation is shortly to be substituted. No change is contemplated with regard to the lower values.

New Issues and Discoveries

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Argentine.—As foreshadowed in *G.S.W.*, No. 219, the 12 c. has been changed in colour. Mr. A. Ford, of Buenos Aires, has kindly sent us a copy of the new stamp, which was probably issued about February 17 last.



1909. Type 72. Wmk. Type 67. Perf. 13, 13½.
187a|12 c., dull blue.

Bolivia.—In *G.S.W.*, No. 204, it was stated that for two values, the 50 c. and 1 bol., the old plates of 1867 had been brought into use and supplies printed therefrom in new colours, whilst the 50 c. is so catalogued in the Addenda under No. 108. The latter should be deleted, since the supply in question is only a reissue of Nos. 55 and 56.

The mistake has been caused by some confusion in the Catalogue. Only the 1 c. and 2 c. are of Type 7, either with nine or eleven stars; the other values are either Type 4 or 5, according to the number of stars. The headings above Nos. 46 and 50 are therefore incorrect, and should read as follows:—

Above No. 46.

1887. Types 7 (1 c. and 2 c.) and 5. Eleven stars.
Rouletted.



Above No. 50.

1890. Types 7a (1 c. and 2 c.) and 4. Nine stars.
Perf. 12.

A reference to "Foreign Notes" in another part of this number will show that this reissue is only a temporary expedient.

British South Africa Co.—For some time past the Chartered Company has been trying to get the name of its territory, which is now known as "Rhodesia," identified in the public mind with the old name of "British South Africa Company's territory." All its documents have been overprinted "Rhodesia," and now its stamps are to receive the same distinguishing

mark. A supply of all the current stamps has been thus overprinted in London and sent out to Rhodesia, and will be on sale very shortly. As the local requirements call for 5d., 7½d., 10d., and 2s. stamps, these values have also been provided by surcharging other values. When these provisionals are exhausted new stamps of these denominations will be issued, and doubtless in due course a change will be made in the whole set. The stamps without overprint of Rhodesia at present in the territory will be left on sale until exhausted.

Cayman Islands.—Mr. A. Leon Adutt has shown us a variety which he thinks is possibly unique, viz. a strip of three of the November, 1907, provisionals, ½d. on 5s., in which the middle stamp is innocent of any disfigurement, whilst the other two are duly surcharged.

He has also shown us distinct shades of many of the ordinary stamps, which might with advantage be included in the lists of the colony, notably a 1d., rose, to follow No. 4, and a 2½d., blue, much paler than No. 10. There are also shades of No. 23, but these are not so marked; but the ¼d. stamp has appeared in distinct shades, brown and grey-brown.



5

Nov., 1907. No. 16 surcharged with Type 5, in black.
Variety. Surcharge omitted (in pair with normal).
½d. on 5s., salmon and green.

Hyderabad.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (20.3.09) chronicles another value of the "POSTAGE" type, viz. a 3 annas.

It seems also that after a lapse of thirty years the State is to make use of Official stamps once more. We have received three values of the latest type overprinted similarly to the 1873 official issue, and there are probably other values so treated.



6

1909. Type 6. Wmk. of Arabic characters.
Perf. 12½.

38½ a., brown-orange.

OFFICIAL STAMPS. 1909. Type 6 overprinted in black,
similarly to the 1873 issue.

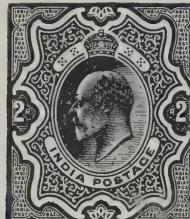
222 ½ a., pale green.

223 1 a., carmine.

224 2 a., lilac.

India.—We have seen specimens of the new 10 r. and 15 r. stamps, and the description given in *G.S.W.*, No. 217, is fairly apt. The 10 r. is pale green and pink, and the 15 r. blue and olive-brown.

Mr. Wilmot Corfield, under date of 25.2.09, informs us he has seen copies of the above, and also the 2 and 5 rupees overprinted for official use.



52

109

1909. Type 52 overprinted with Type 109, in black.
 568 2 r., carmine and yellow-brown.
 569 5 r., ultramarine and violet.
 570 10 r., pale green and pink.
 571 15 r., blue and olive-brown.

Salvador.—There is a note after No. 577 that "varieties exist with all or part of the surcharge, etc., inverted or double." We have received some of these varieties from our New York house, and list as follows:—



100

101



81

1

102

AUG., 1907. Stamps Type 100 overprinted with shield Type 81, in black, the 6 c. also surcharged with Type 101, in black.

Varieties. (i.) Shield inverted.

577a 1 c., black and green.
 577d 1 c. on 6 c., black and carmine.

577e 2 c., black and carmine.

577g 3 c., " yellow.

(ii.) Shield double.

577j 1 c., black and green.

577n 2 c., " carmine.

577p 3 c., " yellow.

(iii.) Shield sideways.

577s 1 c. on 6 c., black and carmine.

We have also received some new shades and varieties of the September, 1907, series, which now require no further description than the list below. It may be mentioned, however, that the colour of 582a is hardly a good description. The 6 c. varies considerably in shade, and the contrast would be better listed as orange-red and pale red (not rose, as in Catalogue). The varieties we have seen of the 6 c. are on this paler shade. The 5 c., too, would be better described as deep blue.



103

Sept., 1907. Type 102. View of palace and label containing value in black. Overprinted with shield Type 81, in black. Perf. 11½.

580a 3 c., orange-yellow.
 581a 5 c., pale blue.

Varieties. (i.) Shield omitted.
 594a 6 c., pale red.

(ii.) Shield double.
 599a 2 c., rose.

The 3 c., pale yellow, chronicled last week became 599b.

(iv.) Shield inverted.
 610 2 c., rose.

We have also received a supply of the Postage Due stamps mentioned in *G.S.W.*, No. 216. I should be noted that the 3 c. is not Type 102, but Type 207, the Official stamp. The 2 c. is the rose shade, and the 5 c. comes in two shades of blue. The following is an amended list:—

DEFICIENCIA DE FRANQUEO

154

Type 102 (the 3 c. Type 207) overprinted with Type 154 in black.

790	1 c., black and green.
791	2 c., " rose.
792	3 c., " pale yellow.
793	5 c., " deep blue.
794	5 c., " pale blue.
795	10 c., " bright mauve.

Answers to Correspondents

L.F. (Rhyl).—The three stamps from Fez-Mequinez you mention are probably locals. A series was issued in 1897 which apparently accords with your description. They were for local postage only, and we can hardly believe they franked a letter to England. There were some Postage Due

stamps issued for the same service in 1898, but not with the words à payer (are they not à percevoir?). The perforated South Australian is an Official, but our publishers do not list this class of stamp. Cannot say what it is worth; very little probably.

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VOL. IX.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

Guadeloupe

GUADELOUPE, midway between Antigua and Dominica, is the most important of the French West Indian possessions, and consists of two islands separated by a narrow channel about forty yards wide. The islands differ considerably in character; that on the west, Guadeloupe proper, or *Basse Terre*, being mountainous and volcanic, and that to the east, *Grande Terre*, being low and coralline. On the former is situated the massive volcano *La Soufrière*, which, though often active, is not the "Souffriere" whose eruption in 1902 was the cause of so much disaster; the latter is in St. Vincent. All the French West Indian possessions are more or less volcanic, subject to earthquakes, and in the track of the terrible cyclones which occur with varying energy at intervals a few years apart.

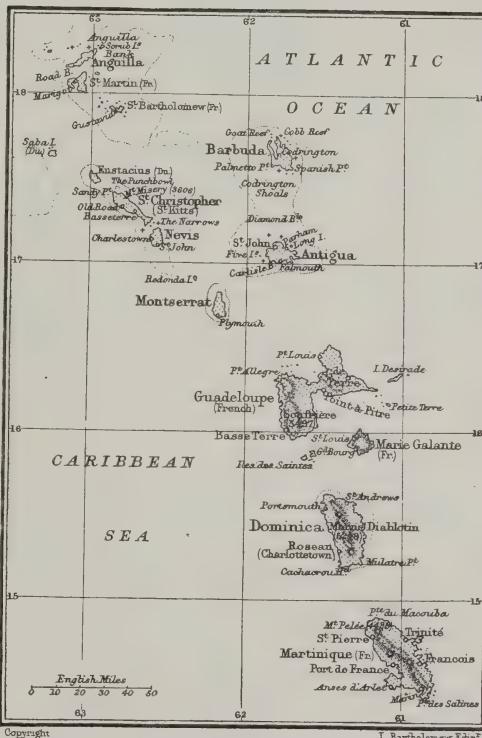
Attached to Guadeloupe for administrative purposes are five dependencies, consisting of the islands *Marie Galante*, *Les Saintes*, *Désirade*, *St. Bartholomew*, and the northern half of *St. Martin* (the southern half being attached to the Dutch colony of Curaçao).

The total area is 688 square miles, and the population 200,000, three-fourths of whom are coloured people. *Basse Terre* (8626) ranks as the capital, but *Point-à-Pitre* (14,861) is the largest town and the chief seat of commerce.

Guadeloupe was discovered by Columbus on November 4, 1493, and he named it *Guadalupe* in honour of the annual pilgrimage which took place on the same date to the village of like name at the foot of the Guadalupe Mountains, in Estramadura, Spain.

The islands were first colonized by France in 1635, but until the close of the Napoleonic wars were alternately in the possession of France and England.

The chief cultures are sugar, coffee, cocoa, and manioc. For local consumption there are grown bananas, sweet potatoes, tobacco, Indian corn, and vegetables. There are large forests in the mountainous districts



containing valuable timber, which is little worked.

The annual imports total about £520,000, and the exports about £640,000. Guadeloupe is in direct communication with France by means of two steam navigation companies. Within the islands traffic is carried on by means of roads and navigable rivers.

The colony is nearly self-supporting, only £17,000 being expended by France in 1908. The currency is the same as that of the mother country, though silver coin has disappeared from circulation, nickel treasury

tokens (*bons*) of 1 franc and 50 centimes being used in its place.

The postal and telegraph service is efficient, and there are thirty-seven post offices in the colony.

Philatelic History

A great similarity exists in the philatelic history of the older French colonies, and the sequence of issues as summarized once before applies equally here: French stamps distinguishable only by the postmark, general issues for the colonies, provisionals, the particular issue of the "Navigation and Commerce" type, and then a series imbued with local colour.

To this list, alas! must be added "more provisionals and more provisionals." Until 1903 Guadeloupe was a most popular little philatelic country. Its crop of early provisionals was justified, the stamps are not too expensive—even the varieties—and the type-set surcharges provide quite a study for the "plating" collector.

In 1903, however, the "voice of the tempter" (Parisian, it is to be feared) prevailed, with the result that three and a half pages of provisionals *with varieties* disfigure the Catalogue, all totally unnecessary but all unfortunately duly regularized by their astute sponsors.

Still, even this formidable list need not dismay a collector. The country is a most accommodating one, since a complete general collection, excluding varieties, can be had for under eighty shillings (this sum even including a 25s. stamp), whilst eighty pounds would not be enough to provide for the complete specialist's requirements.

These 1903 provisionals want some completing though, and perhaps a few years hence, when time has sweetened the memory of their illegitimate birth, what is trash of to-day may be treasure of the future. *Verb. sap.*, and a reference to the files of the *M.J.* and *G.S.W.* will show that a study of these abused provisionals provides plenty of exercise for the powers of observation.

Taking the issues in sequence, there is little need to comment long on the stamps prior to 1884. The history of the general issues of French Colonial stamps given in *G.S.W.*, Nos. 175 and 176, includes that of Guadeloupe, and it is on record that in 1850 10,000 25 c. and 5000 1 fr. stamps of the first issue of France were despatched to the colony. Guadeloupe was one of the first colonies supplied with the "Eagle" type, and the earlier used specimens may be identified by the special obliterating stamp of dots and the letters "G.P.E."

The first issue that calls for special mention is that authorized by a decree dated from Basse Terre, February 23, 1884, and signed L. Langier. There was a shortage

of 5 c., 20 c., and 25 c. stamps, and pending the arrival of fresh supplies from France it was ordered that a quantity of 4 c., 30 c., and 35 c. of the "Peace and Commerce" type then in course should be surcharged respectively with the above-mentioned values. The decree stated that the form of the surcharge should be

G. P. E.
5 centimes.

but it will be noticed that the stamp as issued did not bear the word "centimes." Moreover, the provisional 5 c. was not issued at all, a fresh supply of 5 c. stamps having opportunely arrived before the provisionals were put on sale, viz. about the end of March; the stock of these 5 c. on 4 c. was almost entirely burnt in the following May, only three half-scorched specimens now being in existence. It has been stated these provisionals were burnt because the overprinting was so badly performed, but the former reason is probably correct. At the time they were burnt some 300,000 fr. worth of obsolete issues were also destroyed.

The surcharges were type-set at the Government printing establishment in blocks of fifty, two lots of twenty-five, side by side, and it is not surprising to find many varieties of type, nearly every stamp differing in some details.

Le Timbre-Poste in chronicling the issue works off a little joke to the effect that not only do the letters of the surcharge indicate the country of origin, but that the letter is duly franked *J'ai payé* ("G.P.E.").



March, 1884. Surcharged in black. Imperf.

Unused. Used.

s. d. s. d.

20 (c.) on 30 c., brown . . 1 6 1 6
25 (c.) on 35 c., black on orange 1 3 2 0

In 1888, some supplies ordered from home not having arrived, a decree dated from Basse Terre, December 31, 1888, and signed A. Le Boucher, authorized the preparation of 3 c., 15 c., and 25 c. stamps by surcharging some of the 20 c. "Commerce" type. They seem to have been put on sale at once, and the quantities surcharged are given in brackets. The surcharge was again type-set, but this time apparently in blocks of twenty-five,

which again all vary more or less, the chief difference being in the length of the word "centimes."



Jan., 1889. *Surcharged in black. Perf.*

Unused. Used.

	s.	d.	s.	d.
3 c. on 20 c., red on green (96,000)	•	0	3	—
15 c. on 20 c. " " (58,950)	•	0	8	0
25 c. on 20 c. " " (45,000)	•	0	10	0

In March, 1889, the colony ran short of 10 c., 15 c., and 25 c. stamps, and a decree of March 22, signed by M. Le Boucher, decided "that until the arrival of a new stock of 10, 15, and 25 c. stamps the public would be supplied at these prices with stamps of 20, 30, and 40 c."

The actual supply hardly conformed to the above intimation, for though all the values mentioned occur, the combinations

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Stock Books, and are, therefore, the Prices at which Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., will have pleasure in supplying any of the stamps that may be needed by any of our readers.

Topical Notes

By SUB

Part I Catalogue

I S out at last, and all booked orders will have been despatched by the time this number is published. The next big thing to expect from our publishers is a new edition of the

Ideal Album

THE first edition of this the admittedly BEST ALBUM OF THE WORLD IN one VOLUME ever published has had a remarkable sale, and ran out a year sooner than anticipated. The new edition is being hurried through the press as quickly as possible, but we cannot yet make any definite announcement as to date of publication. This will be duly announced in the *Weekly*, and general collectors who want a really fine UP-TO-DATE ALBUM should bear this fact in mind.

Meanwhile, the well-known STRAND and IMPROVED Albums are selling wonderfully well. Large new editions of both these lines were published as recently as last year, and yet it is time to be thinking about the preparation of a fresh stock.

do not agree. On June 25 a further decree authorized the conversion of some 1 c. into 5 c. stamps. Again the surcharges were type-set, in blocks of twenty-five, and again also many varieties are to be found, the two sizes of the word "centimes" occurring as before, and in addition much variation in the composition of the enclosing frames. The stamps were the "Commerce" type, and the quantities issued are given in brackets. Considering the small lot surcharged of some of the values it is surprising the stamps are still so cheap.



March-June, 1889. *Surcharged in black. Perf.*

Unused. Used.

	s.	d.	s.	d.
5 c. on 1 c., black on azure (196,200)	•	0	3	0
10 c. on 40 c., red on yellow (14,000)	•	1	3	1
15 c. on 20 c., red on green (30,000)	•	1	0	1
25 c. on 30 c., cinnamon (48,000)	•	1	3	1

This demand for printed Albums speaks well for the general healthiness of stamp collecting, and the power of the hobby to enlist recruits.

No, Philately is not declining, as some writers would have us believe, and general collecting is not dead or dying. Far from it! A friend of mine, who says he has been looking into the matter, sends along some suggestions as to when

"Philately is declining." Here are a few, and he says he has a lot more like them:—

When you bought all those 4½d. Queen's Head British and now use them on parcels!

When the principal of your (shipping) firm collects stamps!

When the office boy gets down half an hour before you!

When you send a £1 money order to the Caymans and get ½d. and 1d. current type, and when the man next door sends a 6d. postal order and gets half a dozen *provisionals*!

When a hair-line brushes off!

When you discover your Hawaii Christian Missionary was made by a Japanese Bhudist!

When your inverted £1 I.R. Official has a Brighton postmark!

When C 65 was used abroad in Lancashire!

When you find King Pedro V has had his hair brushed!

When that old St. Helena bar is *not* like Napoleon—short!

St. Pierre and Miquelon

MOST people will now have seen illustrations for the new set of this French colony, but I wonder how many recognize the head on the lower values.

The face of a fisherman in a circle has for some years been the trademark of the firm that boxes the brand of "Skipper" sardines so extensively advertised. It would be interesting to know the origin of this portrait. Is M. Housey the artist in each instance? or have both the "fishy" artists been inspired from a common source? The stamp picture seems to fill the bill better, for though appropriately clothed as a "skipper," the gentleman on the box hardly looks like a "sardine trapper."

The Newcastle Exhibition,

FROM all accounts, was a great success, and hearty congratulations are due to all concerned. Mr. Mark Easton, the Secretary of the North of England Philatelic Society, has kindly forwarded the following report:—

The North of England Philatelic Society is to be congratulated both on the excellence and the success of its first postage stamp exhibition, which was held in the Academy of Arts, Blackett Street, Newcastle, on March 26 and 27. The opening was performed by Alderman J. J. Forster, the Lord Mayor of the city, who is himself an enthusiastic collector, and there was a large attendance of the leading philatelists of the north of England.

In the opinion of competent judges the Exhibition ranks high, and, in variety of stamps shown as well as in quality, is considered to surpass the recent Exhibition of the Manchester Junior Philatelic Society, although, of course, that was on a larger scale. This was probably due in some measure to the competitive nature of the Exhibition, and the silver and bronze medals awarded drew representative exhibitors from all over the country.

Amongst the more notable exhibits to be mentioned was the fine collection of the President, Alderman G. B. Bainbridge, his magnificent and almost complete collection of Triangular Capes attracting universal admiration.

Mr. W. Waite Sanderson, of Newcastle, exhibited a complete set of Nevis stamps, and also took a bronze medal for a fine exhibit of Western Australia.

Other notable collections on view were Mr. Cochrane's Caricatures of Mulready Envelopes,

the well-known English collection of Mr. J. S. Higgins, jun., of Manchester, Mr. J. H. Taylor's Sicily exhibit, Canada and New South Wales, shown by Mr. M. H. Horsley, of West Hartlepool, and Mr. Wade's early U.S.A.

There was also an unusually fine exhibit in the section for rare stamps, for, while there were only three entries, the exhibitors had a remarkably valuable seventy-five stamps among them, Mr. Bainbridge, the President, again carrying off a medal.

The Judge was Mr. Leicester A. B. Paine, and his awards were as follows:—

Class 1 (open).—Great Britain. J. S. Higgins, Manchester, silver medal for a specialized collection of stamps up to 1900 unused, with practically all Official stamps.

Class 2 (Members).—Best exhibit of any country. Silver medal to G. B. Bainbridge, Newcastle, for a splendid exhibit of Triangular Capes, all in fine condition, with many unused copies, and a large number of pairs, strips, and blocks. Silver medal also awarded to O. K. Trechmann, of West Hartlepool, for magnificent display of "pence" Ceylon; and a bronze medal to R. W. Wilkinson, of Gateshead, for Greece specialized.

Class 3 (open).—Best colony in Asia or Africa, limited to 150 stamps. Bronze medal to T. D. Hume, Newcastle, for Ceylon 1855 to 1868, entirely pence values.

Class 4 (open).—Best colony in Australasia, limited to 250 stamps. Bronze medal to W. Waite Sanderson for Western Australia, and bronze medal to Dr. T. S. Parkinson, Benton, for South Australia.

Class 5 (open).—United States of America (over 200 and less than 500 stamps). Bronze medal to H. Wade, Leeds, for practically complete collection of all stamps up to 1869, including very rare.

Class 6 (open).—Any European country (excepting Great Britain), limited to 300 stamps. Bronze medal to John H. Taylor, Manchester, for a specialized collection of Sicily.

Class 7 (open).—Any colony in West Indies, limited to 150 stamps. Bronze medal to W. Waite Sanderson, Newcastle, for a complete set of the stamps of Nevis, including six unbroken sheets.

Class 8 (open).—Any British North American colony. No competitive displays.

Class 9 (open).—Any country the rest of the world, limited to 300. Bronze medal to E. Heginbottom, Rochdale, for British Honduras.

Class 10.—King's Head stamps, any five colonies, limited to 500 stamps. Charles L. Bag-nall, Winlaton-on-Tyne, for Gibraltar, British Somaliland, Cayman Islands, Ceylon, and Natal. Mint collection.

Class 11 (Members).—Twenty-five rare stamps. Bronze medals to G. B. Bainbridge, Newcastle, and W. J. Cochrane, Sunderland.

Class 12 (Juniors).—Bronze medal, Master R. P. Wanless; special albums (given by Whitfield King and Co., Ipswich), Master T. Wanless; and 1000 varieties (given by F. W. Brandon and Co., York), Master D. A. Oubridge.

At the opening ceremony Alderman G. B. Bainbridge, President of the Society, was in the chair, and, in calling on the Lord Mayor (Ald. J. J. Forster), said it was the Lord Mayor's brother who had induced him to resume stamp collecting, twenty-five years ago, after he had given it up for some time. He had known the Lord Mayor since he was five years of age, and almost ever since they had been associated in various ways.

The Lord Mayor said that it gave him great pleasure, not only as Lord Mayor, but also as a philatelist, to open the Exhibition. He did not know what had induced him to commence collecting, but he knew it was the day after the battle of Solferino that he started, and they knew that was many years ago. He urged every young man and young woman to have a hobby of some kind and collect something. It kept them from doing other things and getting into mischief. He had not much time himself, but when he had leisure he liked to get his stamps out and go over them. There was a controversy now as to what stamps should be collected, and he would not say what they should collect, but he urged them not to collect only for appearance. When he was a boy they utterly disregarded the backs, the perforations, and the colour of the paper. They also insisted that every boy should "collect" and looked down on the one who bought. He remembered once doing violence to his conscience by buying three Ionian Islands stamps for 2d.

In conclusion, he suggested that emergency and commemorative stamps ought to be excluded from good collections.

Mr. M. H. Horsley, West Hartlepool, proposed a vote of thanks to the Lord Mayor, and told a story of the influence of stamp collecting.

"The other day," he said, "a boy of his acquaintance asked his father who wrote the *Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*. 'Stanley Gibbons,' was the reply."

Mr. Easton, the Secretary, in seconding, apologized for the absence of Mr. Wilkinson, the Exhibition Secretary, who had overworked himself and was confined to the house.

The President proposed, and Mr. Trechmann, of West Hartlepool, seconded, a vote of thanks to Mr. Paine, the Judge, and in acknowledging this, Mr. Paine said he had had a good deal of experience of exhibitions both at home and abroad, and was surprised to find in Newcastle such a fine collection of stamps, with such great rarities in many of the classes. In Newcastle, Philately did not appear to be taken up in the ordinary way, as it was in many centres where they had large societies, but it was treated as a science.

There were over nine hundred visitors to the Exhibition during the time it was open, and every one was delighted at the success of the young Society's first venture.

King Edward VII Land

THE news of the successful and heroic journey of Lieut. Shackleton and his companions has brought the question of the special stamp to the front again. It has been mentioned several times in the public press during the last few days, but the

Daily Mirror (26.3.09) came to a correct conclusion when it said, "There will probably never be a space labelled King Edward VII Land in the albums." Certainly not in our publishers'.

Description of New Stock Books arranged and priced recently

British Central Africa and British South Africa.

A GOOD book of these countries, both now rather prominent in the philatelic eye. I suppose next time the title of the book will have to be "Nyasaland Protectorate and Rhodesia." The recent issues of the Nyasaland stamps are included, and in the B.C.A. stamps there is a good number of high values used. In the embossed of 1898 there is a fine copy of the *error* and a good number of the *imperf.*, both unused and used.

In B.S.A. there is a fine lot of the provisionals, and all issues are well represented, both unused and used. The book should be seen soon, as in view of the events referred to there is bound to be a big demand for the stamps.

British East Africa and Zanzibar.

Another popular African group well represented, particularly in the numerous errors of surcharge. In B.E.A. most numbers are included unused and used, and of the initialled provisionals there is a nice lot used on pieces of the entire. Zanzibar is rather weak in the last two issues, but is quite strong in the earlier. Altogether a book worthy of particular attention, for both in this and the book described above are included the respective portions of the large stock of Colonials recently bought by our publishers. Included also in this book is a fair lot of East Africa and Uganda Protectorate stamps.

Orange River Colony.

This portion of the Colonial stock has also been incorporated, and the result is a fine book, nearly complete and including many varieties not too easy to find. There are a great number of complete sheets and large blocks showing the numerous varieties in settings. One of the best books we have ever made up of these stamps.

A VERY HANDSOME PRESENT

Packet No. 69, 2000 varieties. A grand packet, every stamp being different and genuine, and thus forming a choice collection in itself.

£3, post-free and registered.

**Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.,
391 Strand, London, W.C.**

Lettering for Philatelists

By HORACE E. COULSON

DURING my visits to some of the philatelic societies' exhibitions last year, I noticed that the titles and lettering of a great many exhibits (mounted collections) were written and scrawled. If these were neatly printed in freehand with Indian ink they would have a far better effect, as neatness goes a long way, not only in the arrangement, but to any notes appertaining to any particular stamp.

ABCDEFIGHIJKLMNOP
OPQRSTUVWXYZ.
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
vwxyz&

FIG. 1.

The word "GULDEN"
is thicker & the corner
Figures "I" are $\frac{1}{2}$ m.m.
From bottom frame.

FIG. 3.

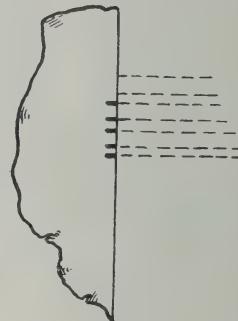


FIG. 4.

The style of lettering most suited for this purpose is simple in construction, and easily accomplished after a little practice. We will take, first, the small letters. First of all, draw two faint lines, preferably with a soft pencil, an HB, so as to get the height of the letters all equal, which can be rubbed out after with a piece of soft rubber. These letters should be constructed as shown in Fig. 1. They can be upright or sloping. If they are sloping, the sloping should be $\frac{3}{8}$ in 8, as shown in Fig. 2. If there were any notes required to be written against any stamp occupying more than one line, say

which consists of two flat bars of ebony or ivory, with two brass links, as shown in Fig. 5.

Now we will take the large letters (capitals) for titles ; these are as shown in Fig. 6. It is best to keep these letters vertical ; they are easy to construct with the aid of a couple of set squares. The corners of the letters B, C, D, G, J, O, P, Q, R, S, and U are at 45 degrees. The height of the letters can be varied to suit requirements, such as the length of the title, which should be set out on a scrap of paper first. Suppose we take the height of the letter as five units, then

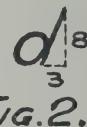


FIG. 2.

the width of the letter should be four units (of course this does not apply to the letters M and W), and the space between each letter as one unit, but the space between words should be about the width of a letter. A title constructed is shown in Fig. 7. In this case, first of all, we have to settle on the width of the letter and the space between the letters, and get these marked upon a small piece of paper so as to set out our title. It is best if this were roughed out on the edge of a strip of paper, so as to get the length. When this is correct and settled upon, take the strip of paper and fold it so that the first letter of the title is over the full stop. When we have the exact centre

of the title this can be centred upon our sheet or mounting card, and the positions of the letters marked thereon, and the letters roughed out in pencil ready to be inked in with Indian ink. The Indian ink best for this purpose is Higgins' American Waterproof, obtained in bottles at about ten pence. The small letters are best done freehand with a fine pen, taking care not to get too much ink on the pen so as to flood the letters, which is objectionable. The large letters are best done with a ruling pen and at 45 degrees set square.

The figures for the dates are constructed in the same manner as the large letters; these are shown in Fig. 8.

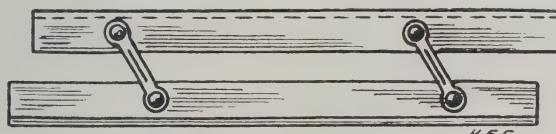


FIG. 5.

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N
P Q R S T U V W X Y Z &.

FIG. 6.

S^T VINCENT.

H.E.C.

FIG. 7.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0.

FIG. 8.

A very neat border should be put round all mounting cards, as shown in Fig. 9, which is easily constructed, the square being one-eighth of an inch or so, and about one inch from the edge of the card.

I have endeavoured to make this as clear as possible to the reader, but he must practise this in his spare time to make himself perfect.

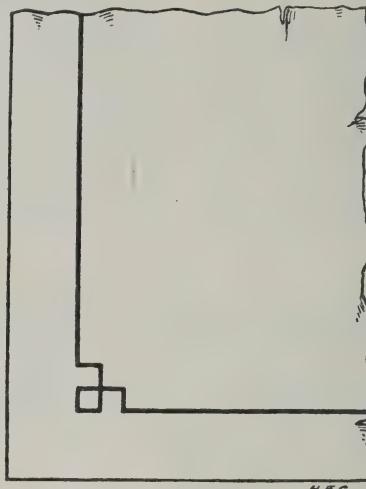


FIG. 9.

The Postage Stamps of Belgium—*contd.*

By CH. DE BONT

(ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.)

ISSUE OF 1884-6—continued.

The 10 centimes stamp, issued July 15, 1884.

THIS stamp was produced in ten printings, comprising altogether 720,000,000 copies.

The earlier printings were in *rose*, on *pale azure* ground.



In the third printing a stock of yellowish paper was used; it was unprepared with any colour, and was sufficient for about 300,000 copies. The stamps of this printing are extremely rare unused, particularly in blocks.

A very large quantity of paper had been prepared in advance for use as required by printing it with the *blue* ground colour, but after some little time the *light blue* tint had faded little by little, so that the background of later printings was *greyish* in appearance.

In 1887 a printing was made on a *deep azure* ground, and the following year in *bright rose* on *pale azure*; these latter stamps were gummed with dextrine* and were withdrawn from sale about the end of the same year, i.e. in 1888.

Owing to defective printing, copies of the 10 c. have been found with a *quadrille*, instead of a *lined* background.

Copies may also be found on an *indigo*, instead of an *azure* ground.

The colours may be arranged as follows:—

- Rose on *azure*
- Bright rose on *pale azure*
- Rose on *deep azure*
- „ *indigo*
- „ *yellowish*
- „ *greyish*.

The 20 centimes stamp, issued January 1, 1886.



* See note on page 205.

There were four printings of this stamp, producing a total of 2,000,000 copies :—

First printing: olive on grey.

Second printing: pale blue on grey.

Third printing: very deep olive on deep grey.

Fourth printing: pale olive on grey.

The *third printing* was exceedingly small.

Copies of the 20 c. are known in which the "T" of "POSTES" is prolonged downwards right through the frame.

The 25 centimes stamp, issued January 1, 1885.



No less than 65,000,000 copies of the 25 c. stamp were printed at various times.

In the first printings the colour was *blue* on a *bright rose* ground. Later printings were in *pale* and *deep blue* on *pale rose*.

The stamps of the earlier printings were gummed with pure Senegal gum, which is rather brittle, and if the slightest excess was used caused the stamps to deteriorate. Consequently a small quantity of dextrine was added to the pure gum, in order that the paper might not crack.

In a good many cases several letters of the words "POSTES" and "BELGIQUE" appear to run into one another; this does not occur on any other values, and was due to certain defects in the plates, as well as to thickened ink.

The shades of this value may be arranged as follows :—

Blue on *rose*.

Pale blue on *rose*.

Deep blue on *pale rose*.

Pale blue on *pale rose*.

The 50 centimes stamp, issued on January 1, 1886.



There were five printings of this value, making a total of 1,130,000.

First and second printings: yellow-ochre on cream.

Third printing: pale yellow-ochre on cream.

Fourth printing: deep ochre on *yellow*.

Fifth printing: very pale yellow on cream.

The shades are best classified as follows :—

Yellow-ochre on *cream*.

Deep yellow-ochre on *cream*.

Ochre on *yellowish*.

Pale yellow on *cream*.

The 1 franc stamp, issued on June 15, 1884.



There were several small printings of this stamp, producing a total of 675,000 copies.

The earlier printings were in *red-brown* on *deep green*, and the later the same, but on *pale green*.

For one printing a quantity of the paper with a *cream*-coloured ground, intended for the 50 centimes, was used.

The 2 francs stamp, issued on January 1, 1886.



Of this stamp there were two printings, making 354,000 copies.

First printing.—November, 1885, 111,000 copies.

Deep violet on *pale lilac*.

Second printing.—? date, 243,000 copies.

Violet on *pale lilac*.

The first printing in *deep violet* is exceedingly rare, and is much sought after. It is, in fact, worth twice as much in an *unused condition* as the second printing.

ISSUE OF DECEMBER 15, 1888.



The 2 centimes, red-brown.

The 2 centimes stamp in a *red-brown* colour is nothing more than the 2 centimes of the 1869 issue with the colour changed.

The following instructions were issued with regard to the change of colour :—

" Alteration in the colour of the 2 centimes postage stamp.

Posts No. 169. SPECIAL ORDER.

Telegraphs No. 110. December 31, 1888.

" In accordance with a Decree now being printed, the 2 centimes postage stamp will in future be printed in *red-brown*.

" Stamps of that colour will be supplied in fulfilment of the orders of this month; all officers are instructed on no account to sell any of the new stamps until they have used up existing stocks of the 2 centimes, *blue*.

" The Director-General The Director-General
" of Telegraphs, of Posts,

" (Signed) DELARGE. (Signed) STASSIN."

" THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, POSTS,
AND TELEGRAPHHS.

" IT IS DECREED :—

" 1. The current 2 centimes postage stamp printed in *blue* shall in future be printed in *red-brown*.

" Brussels, December 31, 1888.

(Signed) "J. VANDENPEERBOOM."

This stamp was issued on December 15, 1888; it was produced in several printings, which showed differences of shade, and made a total of 15,570,000 copies. The following are the most pronounced shades: *deep violet-brown, chestnut, very pale bistre-brown (very rare), pale violet-brown*.

There is only one well-known variety in the lettering of the inscription, viz.—

" BELGIQUE" instead of " BELGIQUE."

(To be continued.)

Notes on the Postage Stamps of China

By C. L. HARTE-LOVELACE

(Continued from Vol. VIII, p. 400.)

(2) Varieties of the 1885 Type.

IN 1885 the second type of stamps was issued, somewhat similar to the first type, but much smaller.

The complete sheet was about the same size as before, but instead of containing twenty or twenty-five stamps, it contained two panes side by side, each consisting of five rows of four stamps; the panes were separated by a blank space 4 mm. wide, and surrounded by a margin about 11 mm. wide.

Thin paper about the same in texture as that of Sets A and B of the first type was used, but watermarked with the "Yin Yang" emblem, so arranged as to fall once on each stamp. The printers were indifferent as to which side or position of the paper they used when printing, consequently the watermark may be found in any of the four positions—normal, inverted, reversed, and inverted and reversed. No position seems to be more common than another.

This issue may be divided into two distinct sets, differing in the perforations. In what I shall call Set A the perforations were produced by the same machine as that used for the 1878 issue. As it had been used for a long time it was getting worn out, and the perforations are therefore very rough as a rule. They measure $12\frac{1}{2}$ exactly. (See Fig. 1.) In what I call Set B the perforations were made by a new machine, another single-line cutter, whose perforations are quite regular, and measure exactly $11\frac{1}{2}$. They are of course quite clean cut. (See Fig. 2.)

I do not know the exact date of adoption of the new machine. My earliest dated copy perforated $11\frac{3}{4}$ is March, 1889, and as I have several copies perforated $12\frac{1}{2}$, dated the same year, I should put the date of issue of Set B about the beginning of 1889.

The stamps were printed in colours readily affected by moisture or light, and they were also unevenly printed. Consequently many varieties of shade may be found which are attributable to these agencies.

The following is a list of the really distinct shades :—

SET A.

- 1 c., bright green, dull green, deep green.
- 2 c., rosy mauve, mauve, deep mauve.
- 5 c., bistre, olive-yellow.

SET B.

- 1 c., bright green, dull green, deep green.
- 2 c., rosy mauve, mauve.
- 5 c., olive-yellow.



Fig. 1.

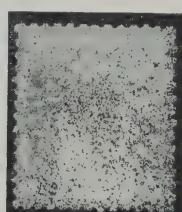


Fig. 2.

The 1 candarin stamp was printed with a yellow background, or rather, in my opinion, the ink stained the paper yellow. Those on white paper, referred to as No. 13 in Gibbons' Catalogue, have had the yellow washed out. I can say this quite definitely, as I put an ordinary specimen with yellow background, catalogued at 2d., into warm water. I kept it well stirred, watch in hand, and at the end of forty seconds all traces of yellow had disappeared, and its value had increased (presumably) to 1s.

An easy way of making profits—paper profits, at any rate!

The stamps were not well printed, and lots of colour often appear on the stamps in various places. Though I have found some occurring on the same stamp in two or three sheets, they would at any rate only be constant in sheets of the same printing.

There is a prominent variety, however, in the left-hand pane of the 1 candarin, in the second stamp of the fourth row. In it the left-hand top corner is broken right across. See Fig. 3.)



Fig. 3.

In some specimens there is a white line right across the stamp, but in others the break can only be perceived in the top and left-hand frames.

I have only seen one specimen of this broken frame variety perforated $12\frac{1}{2}$, and now of a sheet thus perforated without it. All other specimens I know of are perforated $1\frac{3}{4}$.

It occurs in the sheets which were surcharged in 1897, and with both types of surcharge.

There are also signs of damage in the stamp at the south-west corner of this broken frame, the first in the fourth row, which has two breaks in the right-hand outer frame.

I have seen a sheet in which the third and fourth rows are transposed, so that the broken corner variety is the second stamp of the fourth row instead of the third, and the other damaged stamp is the first stamp of the third row.

I have also a pane perforated $11\frac{3}{4}$ in which neither of the damaged stamps appears; the third and fourth rows are arranged as in the last-mentioned sheet, so it is probably the prior setting.

It is curious that I have a specimen perforated $12\frac{1}{2}$ with the corner broken, and a

sheet perforated $11\frac{3}{4}$ without this variety; it shows the two machines must have been in use together for a short time, and fixes the date of the accident to the plate as the beginning of 1889.

There is another variety of the 1 candarin I may mention.

The third stamp of the fourth row in the first setting (the third in the third row of the second setting) measures $22\frac{1}{4}$ mm. \times 19 mm., as against $22\frac{1}{4}$ \times $19\frac{1}{2}$ mm. for all other stamps on the sheet.

I have also found two settings of the 3 candarin and 5 candarin stamps.

In one setting of the 3 candarin the sixth cliché of the top row is lower than its neighbours, in the other it is nearly $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. higher than them.

In one setting of the 5 candarins the outside frame of the second stamp of the first row is broken, in another a break occurs in the outer frame of the fourth stamp in the bottom row.

I have seen a specimen of the 1 candarin with lettering CANDARIN, but as it has appeared in none of the sheets I have examined, I am inclined to think it was merely due to a blot in the printing.

In my notes on the first issue in the number for December 19, 1908, Fig. 1 represents a pair of the narrow setting, $2\frac{1}{2}$ mm. apart; Fig. 5 a pair of the wide setting, $4\frac{1}{2}$ mm. apart. As the perforations are not visible, it is unfortunately impossible to see the relative sizes of the stamps. I also notice in Fig. 3 the "v" in the left-hand corner of the central design has failed to print completely, only the right-hand stroke being visible.

I give below a summary, for reference, of the chief varieties in the first and second issues of China.

A. AUGUST, 1878.

1 cand., yellow-green, green, deep green.

Variety—Break under "C" of "CANDARIN."

3 cand., orange-red, Venetian red.

Varieties—Imperforate; "v" in south-west corner of design.

5 cand., yellow-ochre, bistre.

Varieties—No stop after "CHINA," north-east character touches lower frame.

B. ABOUT JUNE, 1882.

Wider margins.

1 cand., green, pale green.

Varieties—Watermarked letters; break under "C."

3 cand., salmon-red, dull red.

Variety—"v" in south-west corner.

5 cand., yellow-ochre.

Varieties—As in Set A.

C. MARCH, 1883.

Margins as Set A, thicker and more opaque paper.

1 cand., green, bright sage-green, light green on toned.

Variety—Breaks under “AN” of “CANDARIN.”

3 cand., vermillion, red, dull Venetian red, orange-brown.

Variety—As in Set B.

5 cand., chrome-yellow.

Varieties—As in Set A.

A. 1885.

Perf. 12½.

1 cand., bright green, dull green, deep green. *Varieties*—Broken frame, smaller design.

3 cand., rosy mauve, mauve, deep mauve.

5 cand., bistre, olive-yellow.

B. ABOUT JAN., 1889.

Perf. 11¾.

1 cand., bright green, dull green, deep green.

Varieties—As in Set A.

3 cand., rosy mauve, mauve.

5 cand., olive-yellow.

(To be continued.)

The Provisional Stamps of Peru during the Chilian Occupation

Translated from *L'Echo de Timbrologie*, by NORMAN THORNTON

INDEPENDENTLY of Lima and Callao, of which we have already spoken, sixteen other Peruvian cities made use during the Chilian occupation of various overprinted stamps. The study of these is as interesting as it is little known, and all the values of this series are provisionals, which had a use limited to certain districts during the period from January 17, 1881, to December 4, 1885.

Ancachs

Situated on the western slope of the Andes, and capital of a department with a population of 284,000. The first provisional was put into use in May 1884. This was the 5 c., blue, of 1874-9, and was struck with the overprint “FRANCA,” as shown, in black.

FRANCA

7

From June, 1884, onwards, until September 10, the 10 c., green, and 10 c., slate, of Peru were used with the same overprint “FRANCA.” The supply of these stamps being almost exhausted, in September, 1884, the fiscal stamp, 10 c., yellow, was also used overprinted “FRANCA.”

NOTE.—Gibbons gives only the 5 c., blue, with “FRANCA,” and lists the three stamps with the “key” overprint.

Arequipa

A town with 29,200 inhabitants, situated on the Rio Victor, capital of a district of the same name, about four miles from the coast and 7000 feet above sea-level. The town is in communication with Cuzco by the Mollendo railway. It is subject to frequent earthquakes, and has been devastated by

fourteen shocks since 1852; that which took place in 1868 almost entirely destroyed the town. At a short distance are the hot springs of Tingo. The fiscal stamp, 10 c., blue, of the type here shown, was overprinted in black



8



9

with Type 9 “AREQUIPA” in a double circle, and put into use on January 17, 1881, in consequence of a shortage of postage stamps. Shortly after the 25 c., carmine, fiscal was also used for postal purposes with the same overprint in black.



10

On March 8, 1883, the 10 c., vermillion, of Type 10, was brought into use, and like the two preceding it was overprinted with Type 9, but in blue instead of in black.

This stamp exists in red with the overprint inverted, and there are also reprints bearing the same overprint.

Towards the end of 1883, whilst waiting for supply of postage stamps which did not arrive until May, 1884, the fiscal stamps, 10 c., due, 25 c., violet, and 1 sol, brown, of 1883-4



11



12



13

with arms embossed, were used overprinted with Type 10.

NOTE.—Gibbons chronicles these without overprint only.

From May 15 the following postage stamps of the 1874-9 and 1884 issues were used with the overprint Type 10.

1 c., orange;	black overprint.
5 c., blue	" "
10 c., slate	" "
20 c., carmine	" "
50 c., deep green	" "
I sol, rose	" "

And with violet overprint the 1 c., 5 c., 20 c., 50 c., and 1 sol; the 5 c., blue, exists with double overprint in violet and in black, and the 20 c., carmine, with double in black.

On April 16, 1885, letters from the



14



15

Arequipa office were sent franked with stamps of Types 14 and 15, measuring $20\frac{1}{2} \times 26\frac{1}{2}$ mm. and $20\frac{1}{2} \times 27\frac{1}{4}$ mm. respectively; they are lithographed and printed on white wove paper with the overprint Type 9. The colour of the 5 c. is olive, and that of the 10 c. slate, and the overprint is in black on the former and in blue on the latter. Finally there appeared on September 16, 1885, likewise overprinted with Type 9, the two stamps of Types 16 and 17, litho-



16



17

graphed and printed on white wove paper, the first in blue and the second in olive. Type 16 gives a portrait of Admiral Gran, and measures $20\frac{1}{2} \times 25\frac{1}{2}$ mm., whilst Type 17 shows General Bolognessi, and measures $20\frac{1}{2} \times 26\frac{1}{4}$ mm. These last two stamps must be distinguished from the reprints 5 c., blue, and 10 c., olive-brown, which were treated to a forged overprint.

(To be continued.)

Foreign Notes

The Englishman Scored

IT would appear that the "Entente Cordiale" not only exists between ourselves and France, but also with Belgium, or *La Revue Postale* would never have published the following little story:—

The other day an English tourist presented himself at the counter of a Belgian post office and demanded four 25 centime stamps, laying down a 5-franc piece in payment. He was served with the stamps, and handed as change four 1-franc pieces.

The Englishman looked hard at his change, and noticed that one coin had been demonetized, whereupon he asked the post office clerk to exchange it for a good one. The latter was

determined to get rid of the bad coin, and, looking upon the tourist as fair game, vowed by all the gods that it was perfectly good.

"You are quite sure?" said the Englishman.

"Perfectly certain, my dear sir!" replied the clerk.

The Englishman shrugged his shoulders, and drew from his waistcoat pocket two similar coins, which he added to the one on the counter, saying, "All right, then; you can give me three francs worth of 25 centime stamps!"

You could have knocked the poor clerk down with a feather, but he executed the order; he could do no less. So the poor man has three bad coins in his till now, instead of one, and an English tourist has turned the tables at last!

"La Bourse aux Timbres"

THE celebrated "Stamp Bourse" of Paris, which still takes place under the shady trees of the Marigny Square in the Avenue Champs Elysées, is not the only institution of that kind existing, although it is probably the oldest.

Every Sunday morning there is a Stamp Bourse in Lyons, in the Palace Bellecour. The gathering is always composed of a large number of both collectors and dealers.

Similarly open-air sale takes place regularly in Belgium, at Liège and Brussels, but at the latter place we find a kind of auction business in possession of the field; not a gathering of the clans for the interchange of many stamps, *many forgeries*, and more gossip!

Japanese Review Cancellation

AN interesting special cancellation comes from Japan which almost explains itself, and was used at Kobe from November 17-20 last on the occasion of the Naval



Review held there in which 123 Japanese warships took part. The inscription reads: "In memory of the great Naval Review in the 41st year of Meiji" (that is, the forty-first year of the present Mikado's reign). Evidently the navy is considered before the Postal Department in Japan, for no stamp would have much chance after being impressed by this formidable battleship.

Discovery of a Forgers' Factory

FOR some time the Continental press, and particularly *L'Echo de la Timbrologie*, has been paying attention to the wares of one Sperati, and warning collectors of the dangerous forgeries emanating from the man. Various aliases were adopted for purposes of sale, amongst others, "La Borsa Philatelica Toscano, P.O. Box 16, Lucca." A correspondent of the above paper, who was victimized, not getting a reply, made further inquiries and found that the "Borsa" had closed and that all correspondence was forwarded to M. Giovanni Desperati, Via dei Fiori, 20, Turin. The police, put upon the track by

philatelists, discovered that the seat of operations was at Pisa. It appears that at a modest dwelling in the Via S. Paolo a Ripa d'Arno dwelt a Madame Desperati, passing as a colonel's widow, and her three sons, Massimo (31), Mariano (27), and Giovanni (24). The family lived in a very retiring way, and only employed a woman servant for a few hours a day; and she was never allowed to go into any room except the kitchen, all the other rooms being kept locked. The police decided to make a raid, but somehow one of the sons, who was away, got wind of the affair, telegraphed home, and before the officials arrived Madame and the other two sons had cleared out. A forcible entrance was effected and a large workshop was discovered, furnished with every appliance for the manufacture of stamps—printing presses, perforating machines, paper of various descriptions, inks, hundreds of negatives, and, amongst other clichés, one with portrait of Victor Emmanuel III.

Heartiest congratulations are due to the authorities who have thus put a stop to this nefarious traffic, and also to the philatelists who instigated the action. Let us hope the police will be equally successful in laying hands on the manufacturers.

Statistics of Postal Servants, etc.

SOME one of a mathematical turn of mind has communicated the following figures to *La Revue Postale*. Whether they are based on authoritative information or from what sources they are obtained is not vouchsafed.

COUNTRY.	Number of Persons employed in the Post, Telephone, and Telegraph Services.	Number of Letter-receiving Receptacles.
German Empire	298,276	141,259
United States	268,044	128,144
United Kingdom	199,178	65,342
France	93,759	77,129
British India	83,526	62,114
Russia	75,088	24,533
Japan	67,773	59,768
Austria	64,198	38,523
Italy	41,872	31,273
Hungary	28,957	13,499

The above statistics, taken in conjunction with the Postal Union Statistics published in No. 179 of *G.S.W.*, make interesting reading.

Sweden

Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Postes says that the country is shortly to adopt the franc as its standard of currency. If this is so, it will mean a new set of stamps.

New Issues and Discoveries

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Angola.—Messrs. A. and L. St. Aubyn have shown us a used copy of the 100 r., Type 3, perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$, postmarked "Loanda Feb. 98." The stamp will follow No. 80 in the Catalogue.



3

1893-4. Type 3. Chalk-surfaced paper. Perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$. 100 r., brown on buff.

Bermuda.—A foreign contemporary, *Der Deutsche Philatelist*, lists the current ½d., all green, on chalk-surfaced paper, but we are hardly able to credit the information, in view of the accepted scheme for colours and papers. In the *Colonial Office Journal* it was expressly stated that low-value monocoloured stamps would not be printed on surfaced paper, and that statement has been amply borne out in practice.

German Empire.—Mr. Sydney A. Kemp informs us that he has a copy of the current 30 pf. on white paper instead of on buff. It would appear that the buff paper is going out of use, as we listed the 50 pf. on white paper in our issue of January 23.



17

1905-8. Type 17. Wmk. "Lozenges," Type 20. Perf. 14. 136a/30 (pf.), black and orange.

Holland.—Mr. Stewart-Wilson, I.C.S., has informed us of a hitherto uncatalogued variety of the 1867-71 issue, which we chronicle below. It should follow No. 28 in the Catalogue.



4

1 Oct., 1867-71. Type 4. No wmk. (b) Perf. $10\frac{1}{2} \times 10$. (ii.) Bluish green. Die II. 20 c., deep green.

Le Journal des Philatelistes (31.1.09) says that the modification of internal postage rates will necessitate shortly the issue of a 4 c. Postage Due stamp.

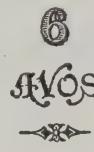
Honduras.—Our American house sends a lithographed copy of the 1 c., green, of the 1907 issue. Up to the present all the stamps of this set have been engraved, but possibly they are now to be issued lithographed on the score of cheapness.



21

1909. Type 21. Lithographed. Perf. 14. 137 | 1 c., dull green.

Macao.—Our New York house tells us of a variety of perforation found in its stock of the 1902 provisionals.



31

1902. Surcharged as Type 31, in black. 194a | 18 | 18 avos on 50 r., blue (13½).

Martinique.—Monsieur Th. Champion was the first to inform us of the completion of the new issue, of which the five low values have already been chronicled. It will be noticed that the central design, name, and value are in the same colour in all values. For the sake of clearness we repeat (in brackets) the chronicle of the values 1, 2, 4, 5, and 10 centimes.



13

1908-9. Central design, name, and value in purple-brown. Perf. $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$ or $13\frac{1}{2} \times 14$.

Type 13.

74	[1 c., red-brown.]
75	[2 c., olive.]
76	[4 c., br wn-purple.]
77	[5 c., green.]
78	[10 c., carmine.]
79	[20 c., deep lilac.]



14

Type 14.

80	[25 c.], blue.
81	[30 c.], Venetian red.
82	[35 c.], deep lilac.
83	[40 c.], pale sage-green.
84	[45 c.], deep brown.
85	[50 c.], rosine.
86	[75 c.], greenish black.



15

Type 15.

87	[1 fr.], dull greenish blue.
88	[2 fr.], grey.
89	[5 fr.], Venetian red.

Mauritius.—The *Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung* (7.1.09) describes from "specimen" copies some values of a new set to be issued here. Apparently the new design has the arms corrected, amongst other changes the "key" being turned to right instead of left, whilst the words "POSTAGE" and "REVENUE" are introduced. We await the issue of these values before listing them.

Mongtzé.—The following varieties should be added to existing lists in the Catalogue:—

MONGTZE

仙二

4¹

1903-4. Type 4 of Indo China surcharged as Type 4¹, in black.

Varieties. (ii.) Chinese value omitted.
A 467a [4 (c.), purple-brown on grey.]

(iii.) Chinese value omitted; "MONGTZE" inverted.
A 467b [1 (c.), black on azure.]

(iv.) Surcharge inverted.
A 467c [10 (c.), rose-red.]

Roumania.—The 25 b., Type 18, has turned up perf. $13\frac{1}{2}$; our publishers have received a few. This variety will follow 419 in the Catalogue, and present 419a becomes 419b.



18

1900. Type 18. No wmk. Perf. $13\frac{1}{2}$.
419a [25 b., blue.]

Russia.—Mr. F. Breitfuss sends us the new 50 and 70 k. stamps, on wove paper, coated with varnish lines, to which we referred in our issue of March 27. The design has not been changed, but the shades of colour are slightly different.



8



10

MARCH, 1909. With thunderbolts. Eagle embossed in white, centres in first colour. Wove paper. Intersecting varnish lines diagonally on the surface. No wmk. Perf. 14, $14\frac{1}{2}$.

Type.

10	[50 k.], yellow-green and purple.
8	[70 k.], orange and pale chocolate.

Siam.—It is said that this country is shortly to change its currency, in which case a new set of stamps will appear, preceded doubtless by a fine crop of provisionals. At present the unit of value, the *tical*, is worth about 1s. 6d., and is divided into 64 *atts*. It is proposed to raise the value of the *tical* to that of the Straits dollar, which varies from 2s. 1d. to 2s. 4d., and to divide it into 100 cents (*satangs*).

We have been shown a variety in the Jubilee overprint which probably occurs on all values, but which we have only seen on the 1 a., 3 a., and 18 a. It is a small "i" in "Jubilee," and occurs twice, viz. on the nineteenth and thirty-sixth stamps in a setting of 100 (ten rows of ten). The colour of the overprint on the 8 atts is given wrongly in the Addenda to Part II of Catalogue. It should be *red*, not *blue*.

ສິມັກ

ລາວ

ລາວ—ໄລຍະຍຸ

Jubilee

1868-1908

57

1908. Type 50 overprinted with Type 57, in black.

Varieties. Small "i" in "Jubilee."

1 a., green and yellow.

3 a., green.

18 a., pale and deep brown-red.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

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VOL. IX.

Countries of the World

W. PERCY BARNSDALL

Guadeloupe—concluded

ONCE again the 5 c. stamps ran short, and first 60,000 of the 10 c. and later 60,000 of the 1 fr. of the "Commerce" were surcharged 5 c. The decrees authorizing these issues are dated December 17, 1890, and February 21, 1891, respectively.



c., 1890-Feb., 1891. Surcharged in black. Perf.

Unused. Used.

s. d. s. d.

5 c. on 10 c., black on lilac . 0 3 0 6

5 c. on 1 fr., olive-green . 0 4 0 6

It has been previously explained that speculation took place in the colonial issue consequent on the widely differing exchanges in various parts of the world, and that a recommendation was made to the colonial administrations to earmark their respective stamps to prevent this. Guadeloupe was one of the first to adopt the idea, and an official decree was issued from Basse-Terre, August 5, 1891, directing that all stamps in stock should be overprinted with the name of the colony.

Accordingly the word "GUADELOUPE" was set up in a forme containing fifty overprints, two blocks of twenty-five side by side, and the stamps on hand duly overprinted therefrom. There were three printings, and several errors of spelling occur in the settings. The first setting contained the error "GNADELOUPE," the second "GUADELONPE" and "GUADBLLOUE," whilst the third contained the last two and "UADELOUPE" as well. The stock con-

sisted of stamps of the "Commerce" type, but there were still some 30 c. and 80 c. of the "Ceres" type with large figures on hand. Of the latter 1250 of the 30 c. and 750 of the 80 c. were overprinted with the first setting, and a further 530 and 100 respectively with the third setting.

GUADELOUPE

1891. Overprinted as above, in black.

"Ceres" type (large figures). Imperf.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
30 c., drab	6 0	7 6
80 c., carmine	25 0	—

"Commerce" type. Perf.

1 c., black on <i>azure</i>	. . . . .	0 1	0 3
2 c., brown on <i>buff</i>	. . . . .	0 2	0 3
4 c., purple-brown on <i>grey</i>	. . . . .	0 3	—
5 c., green on <i>pale green</i>	. . . . .	0 2	0 2
10 c., black on <i>lilac</i>	. . . . .	1 0	0 6
15 c., blue . . . . .	. . . . .	0 6	0 2
20 c., red on <i>green</i>	. . . . .	1 0	0 6
25 c., black on <i>rose</i>	. . . . .	0 9	0 3
30 c., cinnamon on <i>drab</i>	. . . . .	1 6	1 6
35 c., black on <i>orange</i>	. . . . .	2 0	2 0
40 c., red on <i>yellow</i>	. . . . .	1 6	1 6
75 c., carmine on <i>rose</i>	. . . . .	2 6	2 6
1 fr., olive-green on <i>toned</i>	. . . . .	2 6	—

In November, 1892, the "Navigation and Commerce" series was put on sale and continued in use till the introduction of the "Pictorial" type in 1905.

This set has been already fully described under the "General Colonial issues." It is sufficient therefore to list as follows:—



Nov., 1892.	Name in red or blue.	Perf.	Unused.	Used.
			s. d.	s. d.
1 c., black on <i>azure</i>	.	.	0 1	0 1
2 c., brown on <i>buff</i>	.	.	0 1	0 1
4 c., purple-brown on <i>grey</i>	.	.	0 1	0 1
5 c., green on <i>pale green</i>	.	.	0 2	0 2
10 c., black on <i>lilac</i>	.	.	0 4	0 4
15 c., blue	.	.	0 6	0 6
20 c., red on <i>green</i>	.	.	0 3	0 3
25 c., black on <i>rose</i>	.	.	0 6	0 4
30 c., cinnamon on <i>drab</i>	.	.	0 5	0 5
40 c., red on <i>yellow</i>	.	.	0 6	0 6
50 c., carmine on <i>rose</i>	.	.	1 0	1 0
75 c., brown on <i>orange</i>	.	.	1 0	1 0
1 fr., olive-green on <i>toned</i>	.	.	1 3	1 3

In 1900, in common with the same values in other colonies, four denominations were changed in colour, and in 1901 the 5 c. was issued in a different shade of green.

1901. As last. Colours changed.

		Unused.	Used.
		s. d.	s. d.
5 c., bright yellow-green	.	0 1	0 1
10 c., rose-red	.	0 2	—
15 c., grey	.	0 3	—
25 c., blue	.	—	—
50 c., brown on <i>azure</i>	.	0 8	—

In August, 1903, came the first intimation of the scandalous provisionals already referred to. Some 80,000 francs' worth of overprinted stamps were, as Major Evans puts it, *published* rather than *issued*. There was a decree, of course, signed by the Governor and assigning the usual reason, namely, the *exhaustion of supplies*.

Quoting from the *Monthly Journal* (June, 1904):—

"It is greatly to be regretted that home governments seem unable to exercise a sufficiently strict control over their officials in some of the remoter parts of the globe, who, armed with a little brief authority, occasionally run riot in the creation of provisional issues, aggravated in the instance under consideration by a number of varieties almost unequalled in previously recorded epidemics of this nature. . . . Provisional issues are most often really made by subordinate colonial officials who, from a natural desire to make a good round sum by speculating in these ephemeral emissions, will risk the loss of their salaries (which are never very large) and dismissal from their country's service."

(GORDON SMITH.)

Again, from *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* (July 25, 1908):—

"The 1903 provisionals of Guadeloupe are an especially glaring example of philatelic impropriety. To destroy stamps of a certain denomination by surcharging them with another value, recreate the destroyed denomination by a second surcharge on some other stamp, and then repeat the last operation—all at one time and without even the small decency of a trifling interval—ought certainly to be sufficient condemnation of the issue; but when various settings of the surcharges are employed and a further overprint is added in five settings and much too numerous types as well as several colours of ink, the thing

becomes positively indecent. . . . But so long stamps are issued under due authority and are used for postage, even to the most trifling extent the catalogues are bound to recognize them."

(J. N. LUFF.)

The general collector can ignore all the "permutations and combinations," and boil his requirements down to seven stamps. The stamps disfigured are those of the 1892 issue and the surcharges are all in *black* and were printed on sheets of fifty, two panes of twenty-five stamps side by side, the greatest in genuinity being displayed in varying the settings. The numbers surcharged are given in brackets.

June 4, 1903. Surcharged in black. Perf.

G & D

15

G & D

1 fr.

Unused. Used.
"5" on 30 c., cinnamon on *drab* (86,000) 1 0 —
"15" on 50 c., carmine on *rose* (28,000) 1 0 —
1 fr. on 75 c., brown on *orange* (50,000) 1 6 —

Get D

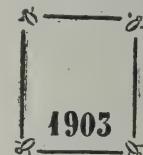
10

Get D

40

10 on 40 c., red on *yellow* (51,000) . 0 6 —
40 on 1 fr., olive-green on *toned* (50,000) 1 0 —

Later on portions of two of the above lots were further overprinted with the date "1903" enclosed in a fancy frame, seven or eight types of figures being used in varying positions, and the changes run upon *red*, *blue*, or *black* inks.



As last. Further overprinted in red, blue, or black.

Unused. Used.
40 on 1 fr., olive-green on *toned* . 2 0 —
1 fr. on 75 c., brown on *orange* . 2 0 —

Guadeloupe, for its part, adopted the proposal that each colony should have a special series of stamps showing local pictures, and in the summer of 1905 the new stamps were put on sale. The name of the artist has not been revealed, but the engraver was M. A. Puyplat and the stamps were manufactured at the French Government works in the Boulevard Brune, Paris.

Fifteen values were provided at first, but the set was supplemented by a 35 c. in 1906 and a 45 c. in 1907. The stamps are of artistic design, well executed, but printed in *bizarre* colours. The values from 1 c. to

15 c. portray a view of *Mount Houllemont, Basse Terre*; those from 20 c. to 75 c., a view of *La Soufrière*; and the higher values, a view of *Point-à-Pitre, Grand Terre* (not *Basse Terre*, as described in the Catalogue).



	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 c., black on <i>azure</i>	. 0 1	0 1
2 c., purple-brown on <i>straw</i>	0 1	0 1
4 c., brown on <i>pale grey</i>	0 1	—
5 c., green	. 0 1	0 1
10 c., carmine	. 0 2	—
15 c., bright lilac	. 0 3	0 2



	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
20 c., red on <i>green</i>	. 0 3	—
25 c., blue	. 0 4	—
30 c., black	. 0 5	—
35 c., black on <i>yellow</i>	. 0 6	—
40 c., red on <i>straw</i>	. 0 6	—
45 c., grey-brown on <i>lilac</i>	0 7	—
50 c., olive-green on <i>straw</i>	0 8	—
75 c., carmine on <i>azure</i>	1 0	—



1 fr., black on <i>green</i>	. 1 3	—
2 fr., red on <i>orange</i>	. 2 3	—
5 fr., blue	5 6	—

The above completes the ordinary issues for this country; but for those who like picture stamps, there is the current Postage Due set showing a view of *Gustavia Bay*, in the island of *St. Bartholomew*, which might well be added to the list. The earlier type-set Postage Due stamps manufactured in the colony are also interesting, and afford considerable scope for a moderate specialist.

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Stock Books, and are, therefore, the Prices at which Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., will have pleasure in supplying any of the stamps that may be needed by any of our readers.

Topical Notes

By SUB

The Transvaal on Cape Paper

OUR South African correspondent, in his letter published in this number, refers to the hunt for these stamps. Lately we have been shown a copy postmarked "Middleburg, Nov. '06," which seems to be the earliest date yet recorded. Middleburg is a suburb of Johannesburg, and as another copy is known dated from the latter town June 13, 1907, it would appear the supply of the errors was furnished to this centre. The date we now record points to the error occurring in an early printing, for it was only in October, 1905, that the 1d., carmine, was first chronicled. The interval between the dates of the postmarks mentioned proves nothing, for it is unlikely that the mistake was made more than once, Messrs. De La Rue and Co. being seldom caught napping. Probably only a few sheets were printed—there were certainly more than one, for on one copy known the watermark is out of centre, and in another it is well in the middle of the stamp—and if it is true that only 50s. has

been asked for a nice used copy, the price is very reasonable. It would be interesting to know what quantities of the 1d., carmine, were despatched to the colony, and when. More interesting still would it be to know what became of the C A paper over, and how the discrepancy in the sheets for printing the Cape stamps was accounted for.

Adding to the Empire

THE following cutting from an evening paper is instructive. Luckily the policy in our Eastern possession is to curtail the issue of stamps:

"Reuter's Agency learns that one of the chief provisions of the Anglo-Siamese Treaty signed at Bangkok is the renunciation by Siam in favour of Great Britain of her suzerainty over the three States of Kelantan, Tringano, and Kedah, and also, it is believed, of part of the States of Rahman and Legeh.

"Hitherto British interests have been unable to advance owing to the absence of effective administration and the remoteness of the region from the central government of Bangkok.

"Great Britain is now at liberty to take over these States from the Malay Rajahs who rule over them, including them in the Malay Federated States, and thus adding some 15,000 miles to British territory."

Ceylon Telegraphs

A CORRESPONDENT in Colombo sends us some information that should be of interest to collectors of these stamps. Formerly it was the practice to affix stamps to the form, the top portion of which was cut through and given to the senders as a receipt for the telegram, and this top portion bore the top halves of the stamps. A new form has now been issued, which is kept by the office with the entire stamp, a receipt being given bearing no stamp. The next step should be to follow in the recent steps of India, and abolish the use of separate Telegraph stamps altogether.

Exhibitions of Stamps in Local Museums

THE Secretary of the Dundee and District Philatelic Society writes that the exhibition mentioned in *G.S.W.*, No. 216, has proved very popular. Just now there is a splendid collection of stamps of Australasia, including Victoria, New South Wales, South Australia and Tasmania, Siam, and the Gold Coast, on view, and it has been arranged that in future the collections will be changed monthly.

Philately is Declining

A FEW more "whens!" have reached me—but no more, please!

When the Government of your favourite country sells its remainders!

When a friend asks you to show him the date on an Afghanistan!

When that 10d. octagonal Great Britain is octagonal!

When you specialize in Australians and forget your perforation gauge!

When a British Guiana 1862 is on sugar paper!

When a Heligoland is German!

When a fellow philatelist tests your chalkies!

When a foreign correspondent sends you one hundred stamps of his country for exchange!

Modern Perfs. of New Zealand

THE Australian Philatelist (10.2.09) writes as follows:—

"Within the past two and a half years we have had to reckon with four different gauges, viz. 14 rough perf., $14 \times 1\frac{1}{2}$, $14 \times 1\frac{3}{2}$, and 14×15 , all clean cut, and our difficulty is to know which are obsolete and which current. It would appear that the two latter have to some extent superseded those formerly in use, that the $14 \times 1\frac{3}{2}$ and 14×15 machines are being used concurrently

and promiscuously, that the 14 rough perf. is still used for the large-sized stamps, and that the $14 \times 14\frac{1}{2}$ machine was only in use for perforating postage stamp; for a short time.

"Having asked Mr. A. T. Bate to help us to unravel the mystery, that gentleman has written us as follows:—

"I purchased a block of our penny stamps, perf. $14 \times 14\frac{1}{2}$, in October, 1906, it being issued either in September or October of that year. It was perforated by the first of the new perforating machines ordered from England. For some reason, which I have not heard, the Government printer ceased using this machine for perforating the 1d. after the first batch of sheets, and, so far as I am aware, it has never been used since, at any rate on the 1d. stamps. Possibly it has been put into use for some other purpose, as the old rotary machine has been in evidence on the 1d. since that time."

"Mr. Bate writes also that as soon as he can make it convenient he will go into the whole matter, and send us any information obtainable; and adds: 'Of one thing, however, your readers may be absolutely certain, the Government printer of New Zealand has not the faintest idea of creating varieties for the philatelist. He is a matter-of-fact Scotchman, who, I fancy, looks upon us all as a mild sort of lunatic, and, probably, a considerable nuisance.'

Description of New Stock Books arranged and priced recently

Portuguese Colonies (7 vols.).

Italian States: Modena, Naples, Neapolitan Provinces, Parma, Romagna, Roman States, Sardinia, San Marino (2 vols.).

Italian Consular Offices and Colonies.

Salvador (2 vols.).

THE Portuguese group is very strong and complete, the purchase of a large stock of unused and used stamps of every colony enabling us to price many numbers that formerly were unrepresented. Collectors of this section should see that their blanks in modern stamps are filled up quickly, as the imminent change of type will undoubtedly mean a run on the current issues. Portuguese India is particularly good, and specialists will do well to ensure an early pick of all the books.

In these ever-popular Italian States Parma is particularly strong, but all the group is fairly complete.

Salvador has been arranged to agree with the latest lists, all reprints and doubtful issues have been eliminated, and the latest provisionals included. There is a growing demand for this and other South American countries.

Any of the above books can be sent on approval for five days to collectors known to us, or after the usual references, and substantial discounts are allowed to good buyers.

Notes of a Provincial Junior—*continued*

By YOKEL

(Continued from page 93.)

Great Britain

THE collector who attempts to form a collection of the stamps of Great Britain will have plenty of opportunity to exercise his gift of patience. Taking these stamps as a whole, it will be found that lightly cancelled, well-centred copies are extremely hard to find, and that their prices vary to a very great extent. Some copies may be purchased in fine condition at catalogue rates, but for others twice catalogue price or more will have to be paid to obtain really fine copies. These notes—as all my previous ones—are intended for the collector of used specimens.

To form a collection—with any degree of completeness—of the adhesive postage stamps of the British Isles is a great undertaking, if varieties of print (including errors of lettering), varieties of postmarks (Scotch, Irish, London, etc.), varieties of paper (blued or white, thick or thin), stamps used in British offices abroad (Malta, Panama, St. Thomas, West Indies, etc.), and stamps used for official purposes and surcharged, are all included.

During the past three years I have tried all these branches except Officials, and I approach this subject more as an ordinary collector than as a specialist.

1840. 1d., black.

The 1d., black, issued May 1, 1840, and superseded in January, 1841, by the 1d., red, imperf., forms nearly a study in itself. As is well known, it was printed in sheets of 240 with different letterings in the lower corners. To print these black pennies eleven plates were at different dates put into use, and as the letterings were punched in by hand it is possible from their varying positions and other peculiarities to reconstruct these eleven plates—in fact, I believe this extremely difficult task has been practically accomplished by a well-known collector.

There are varieties in the letterings caused by the engraver using the wrong punch in several cases, of which the following are the most prominent: D over I in D G; F over F in F A; F over F in F I; T over T in T L; double L in L B; Q over S in Q A; double P in P A, etc. These varieties are found on various plates, but the same error never of course occurs on more than one plate; their prices range from 2s. to 10s. each.

Two other varieties are (1) P I, in which the lower line of the left-hand block slopes up from left to right, so that it is not rect-

angular; (2) S L, in which the lower line of frame curves upwards into the value.

Other plate varieties are:—

(3) Hairlines or guide lines. Lines were drawn on the plates to indicate the position of the impression, and when these were too deeply drawn on the plate and the design or die was incorrectly placed, these "hairlines" of course appeared on the stamp. The best types are D G and K C, which show a line through the value "ONE PENNY," but this variety is found on several stamps. There is also a variety showing a vertical hairline in the top right-hand corner, but never to my recollection in the left-hand corner.

(4) Worn plates. These show signs of the wearing of the plate, and can be distinguished by white patches, usually appearing in the lower right-hand corner of the stamp; they arise principally from those plates which were not hardened before being printed from. Ordinary copies of this variety are common, but stamps showing the plate much worn are not overpriced in the catalogue. Varieties are sometimes found showing the value, as it were, doubly printed; this is simply a variety of the worn plate, and is usually found on stamps from the bottom of the sheet. Other so-called varieties have the "NE" in "ONE" joined, whilst other stamps show a full stop after "POSTAGE"; this latter variety is due to wear or a flaw in the plate.

Copies of the 1d., black, with the watermark inverted, are rather scarce, and with a black postmark they are rarely met with. Their value is from 10s. to 15s. each. Paper of various texture was used for this issue, but does not call for special attention, although copies are sometimes found on very thin paper, almost pelure.

Another so-called variety is the stamp on *bleuté* paper, but this again is a very vague variety. The varieties of postmark used on the 1d., black, form an interesting study. The cancellations are generally in the form of a Maltese Cross; red ink was first used for obliterating purposes, but in August, 1840, most of the post offices were instructed to use a black ink. Cancellations, however, exist in various other colours, including yellow, blue, violet, purple, brown, of which the two first named are rare. Varieties of type are naturally found of these Maltese Crosses, as dot in cross, solid centre, and double-lined cross. These latter are scarce, and must not be confused with double "take-offs" of the outer cross. The types used in the London offices in 1843 are met with on this stamp with several of the twelve numbers.

The 1844 cancellation is occasionally found on these stamps, including: (1) England and Wales, (2) Scotland, (3) Ireland, (4) London district and suburban.

The following cancellations are also sometimes found:—

(1) "Penny Post"; the local penny posts cancelled the stamp sometimes with the mark they had employed previous to the introduction of stamps. "Poulton Penny Post" is a well-known example. (2) Number in a rectangle. (3) Town postmark, in which the date was placed on the stamp instead of at the back of the letter. (4) Pen cancelled.

The 1d., black, is a most handsome stamp, and very few of the productions of modern days can approach it in beauty of execution or design. A page of these stamps showing the various states of the plates, from an intense black to a very grey black or worn plate, forms an attraction in any collection.

It will be found that pairs and strips of this stamp are readily met with, and I believe that the postmasters in those days cut the sheets into strips ready for use, so that to supply a customer only one cut was necessary; if this view is correct, it accounts for the scarcity of blocks. Large blocks of six, eight, or more are worth about 5s. per stamp, but blocks of four are comparatively more common. May I mention here that the penny black has not been available for postage since 1891, but if any reader has any difficulty about getting face value, I have no doubt Messrs. Stanley Gibbons would help him—if not, I will.

2d., no lines.

A 2d. value printed in blue was also issued in 1840, and as its use was more limited than the 1d. value it is of course correspondingly rarer.

This stamp exists in a large range of shades varying from deep violet-blue to very pale blue. A deep blue shade is perhaps the most difficult to find, but the pale blue in nearly a milky shade is the stamp most sought after and can rarely be bought at catalogue rates in good condition. The deep violet-blue and bright pale blue are attractive shades.

This stamp was printed from two plates,

and it is not a difficult task to reconstruct them, except that there are not a large number of these stamps on the market; but pairs and strips are not more difficult to find than fine singles, and these are a great help to the plater.

Varieties are not so common in this stamp as in the 1d., black, but one stamp, N A, has signs of the impression of another letter under the N.

There is a variety, P I, in which the lower left-hand block has the bottom line sloping upwards to the right and a vertical line cutting into this base line. Worn plates in this stamp are not scarce in the ordinary way, but copies showing decided signs of wear in the plate are rarely met with. With regard to varieties of postmark found on this stamp, the 1844 cancellations are more readily met with than on the 1d. value, but town dated and Maltese Crosses with number in centre are rarely seen.

Although pairs and strips are comparatively common, blocks are extremely difficult to obtain.

The condition of these stamps is rather above the average, as a large proportion of really superb copies is found in most large lots. This stamp, in my experience, is more often met with showing the postmark clear of the face and having larger margins than the 1d., black.

Plating these stamps is very interesting work, but the result from an artistic point of view is a failure, as the large range of shades and different colours of the postmarks give the plates a motley appearance. A handsome page can be formed of these stamps by arranging the shades, and keeping the two colours of the postmarks separate.

The 1d., black, has not increased quite so much in value during the past twenty years as the 2d., which shows a great appreciation.

	1885 s. d.	1895 s. d.	1897 s. d.	1902 s. d.	1908 s. d.
1d., black	0 1	0 3	0 3	0 6	0 8
1d., intense black	—	0 6	0 6	0 8	1 0
1d., worn plate	—	0 6	0 6	2 0	6 0
2d., violet-blue	—	1 6	2 0	2 0	5 0
2d., blue	0 3	1 3	1 6	2 0	4 0
2d., pale blue	—	1 3	1 6	4 0	7 6

(To be continued.)

The Postage Stamps of Belgium—contd.

By CH. DE BONT

(ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.)

ISSUE OF JULY 1, 1891.

The 35 centimes stamp.

FOR some time the Administration had decided to issue a new stamp, a "Sunday" stamp, which was to be used on letters sent by express or registered either on weekdays or Sundays.

It was also intended that the new stamp should replace the Telegraph stamps, which had been authorized for use in the cases mentioned previously.

On the other hand, at that time it was already being debated whether the distribution of letters should be partially suppressed

Sundays and holidays, on the assumption that the public would submit to this new system of franking letters on those days.



As the rates of postage were too high for general commercial use, the Department of Railways, Posts, and Telegraphs was obliged to make some concessions, and hence the value for registered and express packets. This stamp was not greatly in demand, and unused copies being now of approximately the same value.

The following is an extract from the Ministerial Decree authorizing the new 35 centimes stamp:—

"No. 140
"Posts.

Concerning the issue of a 35 centimes stamp.
Pursuant to the Royal Decree of June 9, 1891, ordering the manufacture of new postage stamps, and authorizing the Minister of Public Works (actually Minister of Railways, Posts, and Telegraphs) to determine the colours and dates of issue of stamps and postal franking formulæ in general:—

"IT IS DECREED:—
1. A new 35 centimes postage stamp, the colour being red-brown, is to be issued on July 1, 1891.
The Minister of Railways, Posts, and Telegraphs.

(Signed) "J. VANDENPEEREBOOM."

The 35 centimes stamps were supplied to post offices on June 20, 1891. They were used to frank inland registered letters, telegrams and express letters specially within the confines of a single postal district.

The design of the stamp is the work of Hendrickx, in collaboration with M. ms; the engraving was done in Paris by Monsieur E. Mouchon.

A number of control marks were introduced into the design. In Leopold II's beard there can be seen the letters "H—7—35," and on his cheek the number "4727." In the lower part of the stamp, on the left, there appear the letters "HEN," standing for the designer's name, and, on the right, "A.D.", the initials of the engraver (oms.)

There were three clearly defined printings of the 35 centimes stamp, making 1,180,000 copies; they were all on white, slightly toned paper, and were perforated 14.

First printing.—May, 1891, reddish brown, 1,000 copies.

Second printing.—September, 1891, greyish brown, 20,000 copies.

Third printing.—April, 1892, chocolate-brown, 370,000 copies.

The only varieties are those in which there are defective impressions showing in the words "BELGIQUE" and "POSTERIJEN."

A Special Order was issued on February 26, 1898, giving instructions that no further supplies of the 35 centimes of this issue should be given out.

ISSUE OF JUNE 1, 1893.



The Minister of Railways, Posts, and Telegraphs wished to do away with the distribution of letters and packets on Sundays and holidays as far as possible, and so he decided that to the stamps should be attached a label, which one could detach if it was desired that a letter should be delivered on a Sunday.

The following decree authorized these new stamps:—

"THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, POSTS, AND TELEGRAPHHS.
POSTS.

"LEOPOLD II, KING OF THE BELGIANS.

"To all whom are present, and to those to come.
GREETING.

"IN PURSUANCE of paragraph 40 of the law of May 30, 1879, authorizing the Government to issue postage stamps, etc.

"AND HAVING DULY CONSIDERED Our Decree of June 9, 1884, authorizing the 10 centimes value, and the higher values of the current set of postage stamps,

"AND Our Decree of November 13, 1869, authorizing the postage stamps of a lower value than 10 centimes.

"AT THE REQUEST of Our Minister of Railways, Posts, and Telegraphs:—

"WE HAVE DECREED AND DO DECREE:—

"1. New stamps to supersede those authorized by Our Decrees above mentioned are to be issued.

"2. The 10 centimes stamps, and higher values, will bear Our Effigy.

"Values lower than 10 centimes will bear Our Arms.

"3. The wording inscribed on the stamps will be in French and also in Flemish.

"4. The new stamps will be sold at their nominal values.

"5. The stamps of the designs now current

will continue to be available until they are exhausted.

"Our Minister of Railways, Posts, and Telegraphs is directed to enforce the terms of this decree.

"Given at Lacken, May 14, 1893.
(Signed) "LEOPOLD."

"By the King.
"The Minister of Railways,
Posts, and Telegraphs.
(Signed) "J. VANDENPEEREBOOM."

"THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, POSTS, AND TELEGRAPHHS."

"PURSUANT to paragraph 2 of the Royal Decree of June 9, 1884, authorizing the Minister of Public Works (actually of Railways, Posts, and Telegraphs) to determine the values, colours, and dates of issue of the stamps and postal franking formulæ in general:—

"AND PURSUANT TO the Royal Decree of May 14, 1893, ordering the creation of new types of postage stamps:—

"IT IS DECREED:—

"1. The stamps of the new issue will have attached to them a label inscribed 'NE PAS LIVRER LE DIMANCHE—NIET BESTELLEN OP ZONDAG.'

"The user of a stamp may either detach the label before sending it, or he may leave it intact.

"Correspondence bearing this label will not be delivered on Sundays or holidays.

"2. The values and colours of the new postage stamps will be as follows:—

10 centimes	red.
20 "	reseda.
25 "	blue.
35 "	brown.
50 "	bistre.
1 franc	carmine on light green.
2 "	lilac on rose.
1 centime	grey.
2 "	orange.
5 "	green.

"3. The issue of the new postage stamps will commence with the 10 centimes on June 1 next.

"Brussels, May 15, 1893.
(Signed) "J. VANDENPEEREBOOM."

"ADMINISTRATION OF POSTS."

"The Minister of Railways, Posts, and Telegraphs.

"IN PURSUANCE of Decree of May 15 promulgated as authorized by the Royal Decree of May 14, ordering new postage stamps:—

"IT IS DECREED:—

"1. The new 2, 20, and 25 centimes postage stamps will be issued on August 1 next; the 15 centimes on September 1; the 50 centimes 1 franc on October 1; and the 35 centimes and 2 francs on 1 November.

"Brussels, July 7, 1893.

(Signed) "J. VANDENPEEREBOOM"

The stamps of this issue are similar in design to the 35 centimes of the issue of July 1, 1891.

On the bottom of each stamp is a label bearing an inscription in two languages, "NE PAS LIVRER LE DIMANCHE—NIET BESTELLEN OP ZONDAG."

The perforation gauges 14, and the stamps are surface-printed in colour on white, fairly thin, paper. Until 1900 the 1 and 2 francs stamps were printed on a coloured ground.

During 1904–5 all values excepting the 2 francs were printed on a very thin transparent paper, very lightly striped vertically. This printing is quite distinct from all others and may easily be recognized if the stamps are held up to the light; the impression does not show through on the back, and the paper appears as though it had been pregnaanted with tiny dots of oil.

With the exception of the high values (the 1 and 2 francs), the stamps of the new issue were produced in a great number of printings. Thus it has happened that stocks of certain inks became exhausted and it was necessary to use other inks even to prepare mixtures of inks, in order to keep as close to the official colours as possible.

(To be continued.)

How Philately Supports Theology An Insight into the Collecting of "Continents"

By W. WARD

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THE stamp collector is often asked by his "infidel" friends, "From whence come all these stamps?" All of us have that question to answer many times during our philatelic career. But collectors among themselves have a similar query, to which very few are really able to reply correctly, viz. "How are all the common 'Continents' collected?" One can go into most dealers' shops and purchase a packet contain-

ing 1000 stamps—known philatelically as "Continents." These stamps consist without exception of the commonest stamps from Belgium, Germany, France, Great Britain, Austria, Switzerland, Holland, Russia, Spain, Italy, and the United States—very nearly in their respective orders of quantity, which of course varies in many instances—but one can always be assured of finding the four, with Belgium easily leading.

should the stamps of Belgium be the commonest? Because that kingdom is probably the best-organized Catholic country that also claims to be an up-to-date commercial nation, and they have in their homes for well-born religiously inclined ladies a full appreciation of Philately. But what has this to do with Continentals or Philately—what has a convent to do with it? Seeing that nine-tenths of the common stamps of the world owe their prolonged existence to these "abodes," it would be interesting to have an inside view of this unique but, one would think, unremunerative work of collecting Continentals. In Spain and France, or Italy, there are convents and monasteries, but these are far from the standard of those in Belgium or Ireland.

There are at least two convents in the United Kingdom which make a great speciality of the collecting of Continentals and their disposal afterwards to dealers. One is near London, and the other in the south of Ireland. The former, however, gives the eventual purchaser a much less variety for his money than the Celtic house, the London convent's mixture consisting of British, Belgian, German, Dutch, French, Italian, and Russian—not forgetting, of course, Switzerland. The Irish one includes all these and a large quantity of North Americans. Hence I selected the latter as being the best for a visit and an insight of their work.

I must mention that upon nearing my destination thoughts came to my mind as to whether I should be able to obtain the information I required. First, whether, being of the opposite sex, I should be admitted; secondly, would they require some special permit from some authority, or would they "bar" me because my faith was of a different persuasion from theirs? I confess the nearer I got the more self-conscious I became—not self-conscious because I was going to where there was only the so-called weaker sex, mind you, but more for fear that I should have had a twenty-odd-mile journey for nothing (being, of course, in Ireland at the time). Having started, I was not going to turn back. Now though in the Irish towns the girls are affable and friendly enough, in most of the villages the colleen severely keeps a masculine stranger at a distance—especially if he is alone. Being uncertain as to the direction, I spoke to a young lady walking the same way. If anything was marked, it was her disinclination to be addressed, but I wanted information and I spoke. Irish colleens are dark, and I once read that dark people did not blush. I found the exception.

Nevertheless I was put along my correct path to the convent, and I got there. It was just a three-storied, straggling house,

surrounded by the inevitable high wall to shut out prying eyes. Built of varied brick and stone, it contrasted strikingly with the surrounding habitations of single story and thatched roof.

The entrance door had the usual grilled wicket let into it—a point that I afterwards noticed everywhere inside. I pulled the bell—an ordinary horizontal-handled one—but oh! the row it made. I might have been expected, for a face, covered round with white and black cloth, appeared immediately at the opening. Informing the gate-keeperess I desired an audience with the Mother Superior, I was invited inside—maybe a little to my surprise. I afterwards learned that male visitors are by no means an exception at the convents. Taken through a covered but side-opened corridor, I was shown into what I presumed was the visitors' parlour. The Mother soon came, and I stated my business there. A middle-aged lady, she quite upset my own theory as to what I thought she would be like.

I was received with welcome. Before being taken round I was invited to refreshment. So it will be seen that these "abodes" of religion are hardly wanting in hospitality to the stranger.

I was taken upstairs to a skylight-lit room, in which several women were going through old envelopes or opening bundles containing stamps, loose or in envelopes. One was filling big sacks with the stamps thus separated. No attempt whatever was made to sort or select any individual stamps—all being placed in the sack irrespective of value or condition. The Mother informed me that they only made the sacks up. If they possessed a knowledge of the rarity of certain stamps they would be unable to give play to their knowledge, because the women, or girls (it being practically impossible, owing to their headgear, to distinguish age, by my eyes, that is), were only "novices"—that is, women who had only just recently thrown away all thoughts of worldly vanities, pleasures, and troubles, and had literally buried themselves alive. I was told that all the new "novices" were first given this occupation—it keeps them busy and prevents their regretting their choice of life—before being relegated to the ordinary convent work. Where did they get the stamps from? These for the most part come from the Catholic churches, or people in a position to get hold of them, who present them to the convent. They are saved by all kinds. The mother, sister, or daughter of an Irishman away West in Canada, or the States, will save the stamps off their correspondence. The Catholic—orthodox, of course—will do anything his priest tells him, and this is especially so in Ireland. He saves the stamps off his many legal

documents—for in the sister island they have many kinds of fiscal stamps that we English do not need. Probably the most common is that of the dog licences. On the table, I saw one woman cutting off a lot of fiscals—large red Queen's Head stamps, not unlike the 5s. postal frank—from court papers. These in England would not have been allowed to go outside the court, and I don't doubt that it is the rule in Ireland. But the Irishman would sooner obey his priest than the domineering English laws—that is, of course, in the south.

Perhaps some enthusiastic lady for the time being starts a sort of "round-robin" and writes as many friends as she thinks can get her old stamps, and requests them to ask their friends in turn. Now this appears an excellent method, but if the reader will just think it out, the whole idea is a gigantic piece of nonsense. Let us assume a lady writes to twenty friends—that is either 10d. or 1s. 8d. spent in postage, according as to whether she used post cards or not—perhaps if picture post cards, this would mean a cost of 2s. 6d. Anyway, we will presume she only expended one halfpenny on each. If she were liked by her friends very specially, she would, with a bit of luck, get a hundred stamps from each. To send these hundred stamps to the lady collecting on behalf of the convent it would at least mean a cost of 1s. 8d., making a grand total of about 2s. 6d. expended for two thousand common stamps which can be purchased anywhere for nine-pence a thousand retail after having given at least two profits. Had that young lady given it a thought, she would have much better benefited the convent by giving six-pence, besides saving time and trouble on her own part and that of twenty friends. Yet this is the method by which thousands upon thousands of common Continentals are collected. Certainly I did not give my view of the waste to the Mother; maybe she would not have seen it in the same light. I queried how long they had collected stamps, but she informed me that she became Mother Superior in 1892, and that they were gathering them then, but that she had no personal idea of the length of time they had been at it. Kindly she called one of the nuns, but I could not tell what she said, since they were conversing in Celtic. As near as this nun could remember, it would be about the beginning of the eighties that this particular convent took up the business.

Poor women who come claiming alms from the convent are given the job of washing the dirty onion, bacon, or potato bags in which the stamps are afterwards packed.

These bags hold, roughly, about half a million stamps—they are not counted, but judged by weight. Some Continentals weigh about four ounces per thousand, and others

only three, it depending entirely upon the amount of paper on the back of the stamps. Some extra enthusiastic collectors soak the paper off before handing them to their priest or, as in some cases, directly to the convent.

Formerly these stamps were forwarded to some Catholic book dépôt for disposal, but in most cases now they are sold direct to the dealers by tender. Though the convent authorities do not state a price, they have a good idea as to about how much per million they should receive.

The good Mother showed me a picture of the patron saint of the convent worked entirely in stamps upon the wall of what appeared to be a sitting-room. It was not in a frame, but affixed to the painted plaster wall itself. I casually noticed that the figure consisted chiefly of the old penny red British—perf. and imperf.—the halo round the head being composed of the 2 centimes yellow Belgian—all of which appeared to bear the Savings Bank cancellation. Similarly to this country, in Belgium the Post Office has forms, which the depositor fills up with postage stamps in sums that he can afford, and which the Government accepts as cash savings. Of course, here the forms are destroyed, but evidently they are not so particular as to what becomes of them in Belgium so long as they are cancelled. The cancelling stamp is easily recognized, it being roughly the length of ten stamps, having about four long lines and a network running the length of the obliterator. It does not bear any inscription.

No waste occurs in the convent. All the old envelopes, old deeds, or documents, etc., are likewise packed into bags and sold to paper dealers.

This "Irish" mixture generally contains a large number of United States stamps, and at the time of my visit I noticed a big lot of the 1883-8 issues, of course mostly the 1, 2, 3, and 5 c., as well as a few of the 1870.

Without a doubt, a week's holiday in one of these philatelic convents would prove a very enjoyable time for most collectors to spend in picking over Continentals. Certainly there is an enormous amount of very common stuff. I can say I really enjoyed *my* visit. The surroundings were strange, but I was well shown round by the Mother, even to the large garden outside, which is entirely worked by the nuns. A convent is really a miniature town; it has its own church, even its own burial-ground, besides a bakery, cook-house, laundry, etc., all inside the grounds, which, I have previously mentioned, are surrounded by a tall wall.

I believe that there are also several Protestant missions which make a regular feature of gathering together Continentals. At any rate, several of our Church or Sunday maga-

nes once a year offer such prizes as a piano for the most stamps sent in by a competitor, which are afterwards reputed to have founded some hospital cot or helped some mission. What eventually becomes of the stamps? Some are sold in quantities for decorative purposes, as the making of screens, plaques, and what not, and a great many are made up into cheap packets for sale to schoolboys.

Doubtless a large number must in the end get destroyed, for, low as is the value

of Continentals to-day, they still maintain a price, and they *must* sell, or they would not be stocked or dealt in by so many people as they are. Neither would the convents or missions gather them if there were no sale. Though the philatelist scorns the lowly Continental packet, it must be remembered that these common stamps have laid the foundation of many thousands of collections, besides starting off boys and girls who have later developed into ardent philatelists.

The Provisional Stamps of Peru during the Chilian Occupation

Translated from *L'Echo de Timbrologie*, by NORMAN THORNTON

(Continued from page 259.)

NOTE.—We would again remind readers that our publishers only recognize as genuine those varieties listed in their Catalogue. Others mentioned in the lists now given should not be taken without further inquiry.—ED. G.S.W.

Apurimac

THE department of Apurimac, with an area of 9000 square miles, has a population of 119,000. The town of Abancay, capital of the province of the same name, carries on an important trade in sugar and coffee, and is possessed of silver mines.

In 1885 a provisional was used of the Type 5, overprinted with Type 18, in black. This



18

overprint was the only one used; the stamp is of some rarity, for the town of Abancay, where it was used, had in 1885 only about one thousand inhabitants.

Ayacucho

The department of Ayacucho, with a population of 142,000, is situated on the western slopes of the Andes, and is cut up by numerous peaks and ridges of this mountain range. In spite of the severity of the climate, there are many beautiful and fertile valleys. In addition, this department is rich in mines of gold, silver, and quicksilver. The capital of the same name, founded in 1539 by François Pizarre, has about 9500 inhabitants; it stands on a magnificent plateau on the western cordillera of the Andes.

The first provisional, used in February 1881, is of the Type 14 of Arequipa; it was

overprinted in black with Type 19. This overprint, which was applied horizontally, vertically, and inverted, thus makes three



19

varieties. In 1884 the postage stamp 5 c., blue, of 1874, was used with an overprint, with the words "AYACUCHO—PRAL" in a double circle, and the following year the 10 c., slate, of Type 15 was used with the same overprint, applied in black.

Chachapoyas

The town of Chachapoyas, with a population of 5000, is situated in the department of Amazonas. The principal trade is in timber, and there are important hot springs.

The 5 c., blue, of 1879 was used in 1884 with a black overprint, consisting of a double-lined five-pointed star, and this is one of the rarest provisionals of the series.

Chala

This little town is on the western slope of the Andes. In May, 1884, the postage stamps 5 c. and 10 c. of the 1877 and 1884 issues were used with a black overprint of the type here shown.



20

Chiclayo

The province of Chiclayo, in the department of Lambayeque, has for its capital the town of the same name, with 11,500 inhabitants. As at Chachapoyas, the 5 c., blue, was used from April, 1884, and was first overprinted with Type 21, in black.



21

FRANCA

22

Shortly after, this overprint was replaced by that of Type 22, in black, on the same stamp, 5 c., blue.

Cuzco

The department of Cuzco has as capital the town of Cuzco, which was formerly the capital of the empire of the Incas. It is situated on a railway, through which it has communication with the coast, and is inhabited by Metis and Indians. It is an industrial centre, and produces woollen materials and jewellery. The town is 9000 feet above sea-level in one of the most beautiful valleys of the Andes, and the population numbers 22,000. For a long period its mines were a great source of prosperity, but to-day they are almost exhausted. The chief exports are woollens and skins.

From February, 1881, to March, 1883, letters were franked with the 10 c., blue, of Arequipa, with various overprints. The most important, here reproduced, was printed in



23



24

red. Three other overprints are known; all were applied in red on the 10 c., blue, Arequipa, the only stamps used until March,

1883. The first, which we illustrate, bears the inscription "18—DISTRITO" in white on coloured ground, in an oval formed of small squares of colour.

The second has the word "CUZCO" in an oval consisting of coloured dots; the third resembles this, with the difference that it has also the word "AREQUIPA" printed in a double circle.

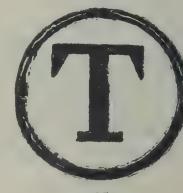
From March 15, 1883, the 10 c., red, of Arequipa was used. It is to be met with overprinted with the first three types here described.

In May, 1884, the following were successively used:—

5 c., blue, with overprint "CUZCO" in a circle.				
5 c., " "	" "	" "	" "	in an oval.
10 c., slate	" "	" "	" "	
5 c., olive	" "	" "	" "	in dotted oval.
(Arequipa)				
10 c., grey	" "	" "	" "	
(Arequipa)				
5 c., olive	" "	" "	" "	in lined oval.
(Arequipa)				
10 c., grey	" "	" "	" "	
(Arequipa)				

Huacho

Capital of the province of Chancay, in the department of Lima, has a population of about 5000. The chief objects of cultivation are the sugar-cane and cotton; it is also a centre of the hat-making industry. In 1884 letters were franked with the 5 c. and 10 c. stamps of Peru of the 1874-9 and 1884 issues, perf. 12, with the overprint here illustrated, a capital **T** in a circle 22 mm. in



25

diameter. This overprint was applied in black on the 5 c., ultramarine, 10 c., green, and 10 c., slate, and later in violet on this latter.

(To be continued.)

The Adventures of a Kilo

By J. W. H. HESLOP

Note.—A kilo is a kilogramme (a little over two pounds) of stamps that are sold by weight.

THESE were about 20,000 of us, stamps of all nations, mixed together in a jumbled heap, rammed down tightly into a sack, sewed up with twine and packed off to Great Britain. With beaver-like activity (the adjective is borrowed from a recent number of *G.S.W.*) a pair of British hands

ripped open the sack and tossed and scattered its contents along the floor. The man was feverish for "finds," but he did not get many, and presently there was a big heap of rejected specimens piled up in a corner.

We wondered what was to be our fate—until the man went out into the yard to fetch a bucket. He scooped up a few thousand of us, carted us out into the garden, and

promptly set fire to the heap. Then his mother called out:—

"Don't do that, Jim. Them stamps 'll come in useful in other ways. For one thing, they'll make a nice bed for pussy."

Whereupon half a bucket-load of us were transferred to the basket wherein the domestic cat was wont to take her mid-day siesta. The cat was no respecter of perforations or watermarks; she sat closely upon all. In days gone by we had been licked by long tongues, rammed down hard on to envelopes, smitten with the deadly stroke of the cancellator, scoffed at by the recipient on account of our commonness, consigned to a dealer's den where we had lain in durance vile for months, while the aforesaid dealer advertised our loveliness (by the pound weight) in sundry English journals. But the cat catastrophe was the unkindest cut of all.

Then there came a day when the Britisher started to "flit." He wanted material for packing, and suddenly remembered the stamps. He laid violent hands on a group largely composed of 10 pfg. German and thrust them into the interstices of the box of crockery he was packing. They served his purpose nicely.

At our destination we fell into the hands of a shy lady who seemed to be vastly pleased at possessing us. She cut us into shape with scissors, thereby creating several valuable imperforate varieties; it was a task

that took her about three weeks, but when she sighed over the business her lips were simply lovely! We understood that her husband was a philatelist, and that she wished to please him. One day when he went off to the White City, leaving his wife to cook a good dinner for him on his return, she set to work and papered his study with stamps from floor to ceiling. Luckily, however, the man was a practised linguist, and could express himself in several languages; the English tongue proved too cramped and limited, too utterly incapable of expressing exactly what he felt at the sight.

So we were taken off the wall and given to the baby to play with. Soon after this we were sent through the post as a gift to a young collector, but the face of the recipient was a characteristic study of the British countenance in one of its worst moods.

We have suffered the ordeal of sundry stamp competitions; we have been advertised many times, occasionally with glowing descriptions of ourselves that made even the red stamps blush; but always, when the buyer opened the parcel, there was the same look on his face that told us of hopes that were fled and dreams that could never come true.

We are all of us getting a little the worse for wear. We are not valuable enough to be viewed as any great acquisition, and are yet too useful to be wilfully thrown away. And so we keep going round and round.

Our South African Letter

DISTRICT FAURESMITH,
ORANGE RIVER COLONY.

IN acceding to your wish for news for English collectors, I fear I can provide very little; still perhaps there are a few matters that will be of interest. There are very few "live" collectors round here. Most of my exchanging I do by correspondence with friends in Bloemfontein, Pretoria, Pete'sburg, Durban, Cape Town, and Jo'burg. There are a great number of collectors in the last four towns. I might mention that Pete'sburg and Jo'burg stand respectively for Pietermaritzburg and Johannesburg, which are always called by South Africans in the above familiar terms.

Quite a large number of varieties of stamps are to be got round here, and it is a wonder that there are not more collectors. One can obtain quite a lot of Rhodesian stamps, but they are mostly of the high values, fiscally used—chiefly by the magistrates' offices for the native taxes.

Of recent years we have had quite a number of St. Helena and Ceylon stamps.

These came on letters from men who were originally sent as prisoners to those places during the late war. So satisfied were they, that quite a lot have refused to come home. Many have never given the oath, for fear that they may be sent back, which of course is not compulsory. Some of the St. Helena and Ceylon stamps—mainly the Queen's Heads—are hard to get, because the holders will not give or sell from sentimental reasons.

The news of the discovery of the Penny Transvaal existing with the Cape watermark has caused quite a commotion among my collecting friends. None of us knew of it, and you may be sure we are carefully examining all that we can get hold of—and they are very common here. I wrote to a clerk I know in the Pretoria Post Office to try and get some, but he knew nothing about the error. I think it must be only a coincidence that the mistake has appeared upon the Transvaal stamps, for a sheet, or several sheets, of the Cape stamp-paper could easily have got amongst a supply of the Crown CA

paper for some other colony—unless, of course, there was a whole supply crossed and the CA paper printed with the Cape stamp. This leaves room for a great expectation—but the collector who starts to look through the Cape stamps deserves all the errors he finds. I do not know whether the 1d. Cape stamp is as common in Europe as here, but no one ever dreams of taking them off the envelope, any more than we do the English or German stamps, which we get in profusion.

Mentioning the Cape reminds me that there is some puzzle as to what they are doing in that colony. They have just issued—or rather some months ago now—a new 2d. stamp. When the 2d. King's Head stamps were first issued the Post Office had a very large stock of the 2d. and 2½d. "Hope" stamps, and a short time after their appearance, the new stamps were withdrawn from sale in order to clear off the remainders of the "Hope" issue. There must have been enormous quantities on hand, for only of late has the 2d. King's Head made its reappearance. It is in quite a new colour. The first 2d. was of the colour of the last "Hope" stamp, a kind of chocolate-brown, of lightish shade. The new printing is very much deeper—a dark brown, in fact. The two stamps are easily distinguished.

The 2½d. King's Head stamp is un procurable in the usual way, though I believe it can be had for the asking at the head office in Cape Town. I should not be at all surprised if this stamp appeared in a new shade when it comes in use again to take the place of the "Hope" stamp. If so, both the first printings of these stamps will be worth keeping, for neither are at all common even here.

People in Europe do not seem to appreciate the rarity of our South African Officials, especially those of Natal.

I was shown a letter a few days ago from a collector in England who refused a set of the Natal Officials in very fine used condition, from the 1d. to 6d., at £1 10s. Now these stamps are catalogued at over £2 by European dealers, yet this collector offered 10s. for them, or £1 for the full set, including the shilling. This latter stamp cannot be got for love or money, and it is hard to say what its value really is, yet my friend had the magnificent offer of 10s. for it! Needless to say he did not accept, but sent up to Jo'burg, where not only did he sell but was asked if he had any more. The shilling Official, especially in used condition, is one of the greatest rarities of the South African twentieth-century stamps, and I can strongly advise collectors who have got it to stick tight. I had one copy myself, but was silly enough to sell it, thinking I should get another. The space in my album is still blank! Ex-

cept in fiscal condition, the Rhodesian high values seem to be much commoner in Europe than here. Though I have several correspondents in that territory, there are many values that I cannot get hold of, even unused. I have heard that some values of the large stamps never reached South Africa at all—one of my friends actually getting one or two stamps from a London dealer to complete his sets. Very few of the new 3d. Rhodesia have got round here as yet, and as for the 4d. of the small type, it seems to be entirely out of use, if the number I get is anything to go by. I hear that there is every likelihood of the title on the stamp being shortly changed from "British South Africa Company" to the correct name "Rhodesia" and a picture issue making its appearance. This is very likely, for that country has been making great strides of late, and a deal of money has been invested in new land companies, especially round Salisbury.

I do not think there will be any issue of stamps for the whole of British South Africa. The Cape people would no doubt like it, but the other Governments would never consent—especially Natal, which is always having little disputes with the officials at Table Bay over some matter or other. Things are much better now than they have been for years, and there is much chance for us to regain the prosperity we enjoyed in the early nineties. There will never be another war here, though we might have a little trouble with the Indians and Kaffirs who are always having bothers between themselves. Our natives are naturally lazy. A Kaffir will work for several months, and then go back to his home, or kraal, and live for a year doing nothing, until tax time arrives again, when he is obliged to seek work. The Indian is always working, and nothing seems to be too hard for him. We do not have so many of the latter round here as they have in Natal and the Transvaal—indeed, we are quite out of South African affairs of the day, but that does not trouble us.

A. VAN C. DE VILLIER.

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New Issues and Discoveries

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Afghanistan.—According to the *London Philatelist* (3.09), a new 1 abasi stamp has been issued which bears a general resemblance to its predecessor (Type 49 in the Catalogue), but the Arms are in a "rayed" circle instead of in a wreath. The design is typographed.

New type. Perf. (?).
25½ 1 a., ultramarine.

Australian Commonwealth.—We have received the 2s., 10s., and 20s. with a stroke and dash instead of with "s," but these three stamps are perforated exactly 11, unlike the recently chronicled 1s. and 5s., which were compound.

The *Australian Philatelist* (10.2.09) chronicles the two varieties below.



3



6

1909. Type 3. Wmk. Crown and A, Type 5.

(a) Perf. 11½, 12, compound with 11.
154 3d., emerald-green.
(b) Perf. 11.
4d., emerald-green.

1909. Type 6. Stroke after figure of value. Chalk-surfaced paper. Wmk. Crown and single-lined A, Type 4. Perf. 11.

170 2s., emerald-green.
171 10s. "
172 [20s.] "

Belgium.—It is stated in *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* (31.3.09) that a 30 c. Postage Due stamp has just been issued, and that a 40 c. is to be issued on May 1. The design of both these stamps is similar to that of the older values of the set.



62

POSTAGE DUE STAMP. MARCH, 1909. Type 62.
Perf. 14.

3½ [30 c.], pale blue.

Charkari.—This State has issued a new set of stamps, ranging in value from 1 pice to 1 rupee, the highest and lowest values being in exactly the same colour, which may lead to mistakes more

profitable to the Post Office than to the public. The design consists of two swords, crossed in the centre, with "CHARKARI STATE C. I." in an arch above them, and "POSTAGE STAMP" at the top; below the swords are characters denoting the value, and four lines of inscription: "INDIA—BUNDELKHAND"—two words in Devanagri, the first of which seems to read *Charkari*—and the value "1 PICE," etc. The whole is in white on a solid rectangular ground of colour, surrounded by a white and a coloured frame line. The stamps are lithographed on thin wove paper, perf. 11. We have only seen single specimens at present, so do not know the size of the sheets or whether there are varieties of type.



2

1909. Type 2. Lithographed. Wove paper.
Pin-perf. 11.

38 1 pice, chestnut.
39 ½ anna, scarlet.
40 1 " light green.
41 2 annas, blue.
42 4 " deep green.
43 8 " brick-red.
44 1 rupee, brown.

Colombia.—We have found in our stock the 5 pesos, purple, Type 90, perf. 11½, 12.



90

1903-4. Type 90. (c) Perf. 11½, 12.
430 5 p., purple.

Crete.—More varieties of the "ΕΛΛΑΣ" overprint! Let them speak for themselves.

Varieties. (ii.) "Δ" instead of "Α," reading
"ΕΛΛΔΣ."

159 [31] 25 l., black and blue.
(ix.) Overprint inverted.
1954 [19] 20 l., blue-green.

Jamaica.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (6.3.09) has heard of the issue of the 2s. on multiple paper. We await definite news before listing.

Papua.—Mr. A. Ashby tells us he has received the 1s., perf. 12½.



6

1909. Type 6. Centre in first colour. Wmk. Crown and A. Type 7.
(b) Perf. 12½.
1s., black and orange.

Peru.—The Express Letter stamp, No. 301 in the Catalogue, is not quite correctly described. The overprint is as illustrated here—

EXPRESO

81

reading diagonally upwards, and is in *black*, and not in *red* as queried.

Rio de Oro.—A correspondent has kindly shown us a new set of stamps bearing a medallion portrait of King Alfonso.



8

MARCH (?), 1909. Type 8. Perf. 14.

45	1 c., salmon.
46	2 c., brownish orange.
47	5 c., myrtle-green.
48	10 c., pale orange-red.
49	5 c., blue-green.
50	20 c., black-purple.
51	25 c., indigo-blue.
52	30 c., crimson.
53	40 c., chocolate.
54	50 c., deep reddish mauve.
55	1 p., black-brown.
56	4 p., rosine.
57	10 p., claret.

Salvador.—According to *Champion's Bulletin* (25.3.09), four values of the latest type of the Service stamps have been issued overprinted with the old shield, 12 mm. wide.



207



81

OFFICIAL STAMPS. 1908. Type 207. Centre in black, overprinted with Type 81 (at the top). Perf. 11½.

1064	1 c., green.
1065	2 c., red.
1067	5 c., indigo.
1069	13 c., bright mauve.

Santander.—Cucuta.—Monsieur Pierre Mahé informs us that he has seen the four provisionals chronicled below. The types of the surcharges are illustrated in the Catalogue.



8

1906. Type 8 (or Cucuta) surcharged with types of Santander, in blue (B.).

58a	28	2 c. on 5 c., blue on yellow (B.).
58b	29	2 c. on 5 c., " "
58c	30	2 c. on 5 c., " "
58d	31	2 c. on 5 c., " "

Surinam.—We are indebted to Mr. A. J. Warren for the sight of a second printing of the 5 c. stamp chronicled in our issue of March 13, and it is perforated instead of rouletted. Up to the present we have no information as to the number printed.



14

MARCH, 1909. Type 14. Perf. 11½ × 10½.
105 5 c., pale red.

Switzerland.—*L'Echo de Timbrologie* has received the 1 c. Postage Due stamp with the Large Cross watermark, and *Champion's Bulletin* (25.3.09) adds the 20 c.



52

1909. Type 52. Figures of value in scarlet.
Wmk. Type 13. Perf. 11½.

336	1 (c.), olive-green.
340	20 (c.) "

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VOL. IX.

The Postal Issues of Denmark and the Danish Colonies

By L. HANCIAU

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(Continued from page 133.)

Danish West Indies

THE Danish West Indies consist of the islands of St. Croix, St. Thomas, and St. John. They form one colony. Before they became dependencies of Denmark they were at different times in the possession of Great Britain and Holland jointly, of Great Britain alone, of Spain, of France, of the Order of Malta, and of the French West India Company. They were a British possession from 1807 to 1814, and then became Danish; of late years there has been some talk of their passing into the possession of the United States of America.

Their total population is about 50,000,* of whom not more than one-tenth are whites.

About the year 1837 the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company selected the island of St. Thomas for the site of a depot or rendezvous for the various steamships which that company employed for the conveyance of the mails between Europe and America. Having obtained authority from the Danish Government, the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company established at the same period a Postal Agency for the superintendence of the mails brought by its steamers, and it received a subsidy from the British Government for this service.

All the *foreign* correspondence, either originating in or addressed to the Danish West Indies (St. Croix, St. Thomas, or St. John), was then despatched through the British Agency at St. Thomas, whilst the *inland* correspondence of these islands was dealt with by the chief clerks of the Customs Department at Christiansted and Fredericksted (St. Croix), at Charlotte-Amelia (St. Thomas), and at Grand Cay of Cruxbay (St. John). It would even seem that all this latter correspondence, the postage of which was paid in cash, was conveyed under

official cover, which was not, however, subject to any special charge.

In 1855, in pursuance of a Royal Ordinance, which is quoted later, the Colonial Government ordained the establishment of Post Offices at Christiansted, Fredericksted, St. Thomas, and St. John, and the issue of a 3 cents Postage Stamp, for the franking of letters despatched from one of these offices to another.

At the same time these offices were authorized to make use, if necessary, of Danish merchant vessels for the conveyance of correspondence for Denmark and foreign countries; but in any case the service of foreign mails thus established was of very small importance.

In 1871, under a convention arranged between the Government of Germany and that of Denmark, a regular service was established, by the line of steamers of the Hamburg-American Steam Packet Company, between the Danish West Indies (Office at St. Thomas), Germany (Offices at Hamburg and via Verviers-Cologne), and Denmark (Office of Korsor-kiel). This arrangement lasted until the 1st September, 1877, and then came to an end on the entry of the Danish West Indies into the Universal Postal Union. The stamps of the Hamburg-American Company, issued in 1876, ceased to be employed at St. Thomas from the 1st September, 1878.

There was also a postal service between St. Thomas and La Guaya and Porto Cabello by the steamer *Robert Todd*, and between those cities and Curaçao by the steamer *Honfleur*. These services were suppressed in 1875 or 1876, and the stamps of the companies to which these steamers belonged became obsolete at the same date. But correspondence with Curaçao was afterwards franked by Dutch or Danish stamps, according to the steamers by which the mails were sent; and correspondence for Venezuela, after the suppression of the private

* This is probably a liberal estimate; *Whitaker's Almanack* for 1909 says 32,786.—E. B. E.

lines, was franked by means of Danish stamps; but letters coming from Venezuela to St. Thomas, although prepaid with Venezuelan stamps, were charged on arrival as unpaid, which is now no longer the case.

The following is the Decree under which the Postage Stamps of the Danish West Indies were first introduced (the Decree was published in English as well as in Danish, and it is therefore given in its original form):—

WE FREDERICK THE SEVENTH,

By the grace of God King of Denmark, the Vandals and the Goths, Duke of Sleswick, Holstein, Stormarn, Ditmarsh, Lauenborg, and Oldenborg,

Make known: On the report of Our Minister of Finance, who has laid before Us the deliberation of the Colonial Council on a Draft of Ordinance, extending the Law of 11th of March 1851, concerning transmission by post of letters and packages, to the Danish West-India Possessions, We most graciously decree:

The Law of the 11th of March 1851 for the kingdom of Denmark, concerning transmission by post of letters and packages, is hereby extended to the Danish West-India Possessions, in the following manner, and with the modifications contained in this ordinance.

§ 1.

The postage of letters originating in, and addressed to any place in the Danish West-India Islands shall be uniform, without regard to the distance.

The present rules for exemptions from paying postage shall remain unchanged until further.

§ 2.

1) The postage of single letters shall be 4 cents, unless post-stamps are affixed to them; these stamps to be sold by the post-department, at the rate of 3 cents a piece for a single letter, or \$2.75 for 100 stamps.

Letters weighing one Danish Lod (half an ounce) or less, shall be considered as single letters.

With respect to letters weighing above one Lod, the following scale shall be employed, viz:

above 1, but not exceeding 2 Lod, two rates or 2 post-stamps,
above 2, but not exceeding 3 Lod, three rates or 3 post-stamps,
above 3, but not exceeding 4 Lod, four rates or 4 post-stamps,
above 4, but not exceeding 5 Lod, five rates or 5 post-stamps,
above 5, but not exceeding 6 Lod, six rates or 6 post-stamps,
above 6, but not exceeding 7 Lod, seven rates or 7 post-stamps,
above 7, but not exceeding 8 Lod, eight rates or 8 post-stamps,
and so on, one rate (1 post-stamp) being added for every Lod up to 32 Lod.

2) For letters marked "Recommended" or "NB" shall be paid, besides the ordinary, an additional postage of 7 cents.

If, at the request of the sender, the letter is accompanied by a written acknowledgment of the receipt of the same, to be returned with the signature of the receiver, the sender shall prepay the rate of a single letter, for the return.

3) Dead letters, that are returned on demand, and letters addressed to persons who have changed their residence, shall only be charged with the postage, that originally should have been paid.

4) Envelops* enclosing letters and other articles sent by the light mail, shall be charged with the same postage as letters.

§ 3.

For conveyance by the post of other articles than letters, the following charges shall be paid:

A. THE LIGHT (LETTER) MAIL.

1) For packets in general, not exceeding 32 Lod, shall be charged as for letters.

Letters of address accompanying a packet, shall be weighed together with this, in order to calculate the postage.

2) For prepaid packets not exceeding 8 Lod, sent in cross bands or single bands, and not containing any thing written but the address, the name of the sender, the place from where the packet is sent, and the date, shall be paid: not exceeding 4 Lod, one rate or one post-stamp, above 4, not exceeding 8 Lod, two rates or two post-stamps.

To this class belong printed price-currents, even if the prices are added in writing, and proof-sheets on which only the corrections are written.

If accompanied by a letter of address, postage shall be paid for the same, as for a letter.

B. THE HEAVY (PACKAGE) MAIL.

1) Packages and valuables in general. The postage shall consist of:

a fundamental postage of 4 cents, a postage for the weight or volume, and a postage for the value.

The postage for the weight or volume and for the value shall be calculated separately, according to the following tariffs:

Weight- or Volume-Tariff.

For transmissions by sea:

between the towns of Christiansted and Frederiksted in St. Croix,
between the town of St. Thomas and one of the towns in St. Croix,
between the town of St. Thomas and Cruxbay in St. Johns,
between Cruxbay and one of the towns in St. Croix, shall be paid:

For volume less than one Danish cubic-foot, according to the weight, viz:

weight not exceeding one pound, 2 cents,
weight above one pound not exceeding 2 pounds, 3 cents,
weight above two pounds not exceeding 3 pounds, 4 cents, and so on 1 cent for each additional pound, not exceeding 10 cents, this amount being the highest postage for weight.

* The word is spelt thus all through the original notice, except in one place.—E. B. E.

For volume of one Danish cubic foot,
10 cents.

For volume above one Danish cubic foot,
7 cents per cubic foot.

If the transmission is not direct between the above mentioned places, but the route combined, the different postages for the weight on the volume shall be added together. Transmissions by a vessel shall however be considered direct, if the vessel—though touching at other places on its passage—does not unship the goods, sent by the mail.

The Government may raise or lower the weight or volume tariff, of which however previous information must be given to the public.

Value-Tariff.

Not exceeding \$2½.....	2 cents,
over \$2½ not exceeding \$5.....	4 "
over " 5 not exceeding " 25	8 "
over " 25 not exceeding " 50	12 "
over " 50 not exceeding " 100....	16 "
over " 100, for each \$100,	12 cents.

If the value of a package is not stated, the postage shall be calculated according to its weight which shall be rated at 50 cents per pound, if the volume is less than one Danish cubic foot, and at \$5 per cubic foot, if the volume is one cubic foot or more.

Separate postage is not charged for letters of address not exceeding one Lod.

The key belonging to an article, that is locked, and to be transmitted by the mail, shall not be calculated in the weight.

2) For packets not exceeding 8 Lod, without money value, with or without letters of address, shall be paid at the rate of a double letter, or they may be franked by two post stamps.

3) For documents, bonds on name and other written or printed matters filled up by writing, shall be paid as for letters, viz :

a, not exceeding 8 Lod :

not exceeding 1 Lod, one rate (or one post stamp).

above 1 Lod, not exceeding 2 Lod, two rates (or 2 post stamps),

above 2 Lod, not exceeding 4 Lod, three rates (or 3 post stamps),

above 4 Lod, not exceeding 8 Lod, four rates (or 4 post stamps),

If letters of address accompany such packets, the postage shall be calculated according to the combined weight of the letter and the packet. If the value is stated, postage according to the value-tariff shall be added.

b, Above 8 Lod : according to the common postage for packages (B. 1), however not less than 12 cents.

4) For heavy mail articles, sent to the post office to be conveyed, after the expiration of the ordinary time for delivering packages, the above stated rates for weight or volume with addition of one half shall be paid.

5) For transmission in an envelop of any kind of paper-money payable to the bearer, accompanied by coin not exceeding \$2½ in whole and half dollars or 49½ cents in change, shall be paid according to the value-tariff with addition of the fundamental postage.

The postage for the weight or volume shall be added in case the transmissions be made in any other packing than the above mentioned. For an accompanying letter of address not exceeding 1 Lod no charge is made.

§ 4.

Packets not exceeding 8 Lod, in the form of a letter, or sent in cross-bands, also envelops, containing coin or papers of money value, shall be supplied with a complete address; but may be transmitted with or without a letter of address or a plain address, according to the option of the sender.

But all other packets or packages of money-value, whether they are supplied with a complete address or only a mark and the place of destination, shall be accompanied by a separate letter of address or a plain address.

Letters weighing more than one Lod or enclosing valuables, shall not be considered as letters of address.

§ 5.

It shall be observed by transmissions of valuables, such as coin and papers of money-value, payable to the bearer, as also other articles of a value of 50 cents or more pr. Lod, that the content and the real value in West-India coin be stated when they are given in.

It is prohibited to enclose letters and other written matters in any article that is to be transmitted, unless full postage is paid for the same.

§ 6.

At the delivery of a package the receiver shall pay the following fees, whether he calls himself for the package, or the same is sent to him, viz :

either according to weight :

not exceeding 1 pound,.....	1 cent,
above 1 pound not exceeding 10 pounds, 2 cents,	
" 10 "	25 " 4 cents,
" 25 " for each additional 25 pounds,	
2 cents,	

or according to value :

not exceeding \$25,.....	1 cent,
above \$25 not exceeding \$100,.....	2 cents,
" \$100,.....	\$1000,.....1 cent

pr. \$100 and for each additional \$200, 1 cent more, however under no circumstance more than 25 cents according to value for one package.

The highest of the above mentioned two tariffs is invariably to be employed.

§ 7.

These tariffs contain a statement of all that in general is to be paid for the receipt, conveyance and delivery of letters and packages.

In case a certificate in due form be requested from the post office for the receipt of a letter or a package (§ 2,) 2 cents shall be paid for the same. Two or more pieces belonging to the same transmission, given in simultaneously by the same sender, and to be received by the same person, may be entered in one certificate.

For other special services requested from the post offices, such as marking, supplying envelops, addressing, reporting the arrival of expected goods &c., the post offices are entitled to a fee of 2 cents for each.

If coin or paper-money are sent to the post office in open envelops, in order to be counted, the following fees shall be paid: for an amount not exceeding \$100, 2 cents, above \$100, 1 cent more for each additional \$100. However, neither this, nor the above-mentioned fee for a certificate in due form shall be demanded in cases concerning the royal service.

§ 8.

When the payment of cents is made in the still current stivers, 1 stiver equal $1\frac{1}{3}$ cent, the following scale shall be employed,

1 cent to be paid with 1 stiver,	
2.....	2 ,,
3.....	2 ,,
4.....	3 ,,
5.....	4 ,,
6.....	5 ,,
7.....	5 ,,
8.....	6 ,,

and so on, the payment in stivers never to exceed the rate in cents, with more than $\frac{2}{3}$ cents and never to come under the same with more than $\frac{1}{3}$ cent.

§ 9.

1) Letters or packages transmitted by post may,

(To be continued.)

according to the option of the sender, be prepaid or not; letters marked "recommended" and letters above 8 Lod are however not received unless they are prepaid. Prepayment for a part of the distance is not permitted. Letters and packages marked "free" "paid" or "franco" cannot be franked by post-stamps.

2) Letters and packages from private persons to the authorities, concerning the public service, as also to military men in service, shall be prepaid, unless the outside of the letter or package is supplied with a certificate signed by the sender himself, that the content concerns solely reports or declarations that have been officially demanded from him.

For letters and packages from the authorities to private persons shall postage be paid by the receiver, unless they concern reports or declarations officially demanded.

§ 10.

All post charges for newspapers transmitted through and distributed by the post department are fixed to 20 per cent of their original price, unless exemptions in this respect are made in post-conventions with foreign governments.

Cayman Islands Case

By E. B. EVANS

SINCE the publication of my notes upon this subject in the number for March 27, 1909, Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. have sent me a large packet of correspondence that has taken place between the firm and various parties concerned, ranging from the late Postmistress of the dependency up to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and from all these documents I have endeavoured to compile a history of the case, as nearly as may be up to date.

It is unnecessary perhaps to explain that, down to the early part of 1907, stamp dealers in this country and elsewhere had been in the habit of obtaining supplies of Cayman Islands stamps from the Post Office in that colony, in the ordinary course of business, and, so far as I know, without any undue trouble or delay; so that it was no new thing two years ago for dealers to send cash or cheques to the Postmistress, and receive stamps in return, and it was not until about that date that any difficulty was made about supplying such stamps as were asked for, or in accepting cheques from responsible firms.

The first letter of the correspondence before me, is one from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co., dated April 4, 1907, in which they refer to a previous letter of January 23rd, which had not then been answered, and also (in confirmation) to one of March 15th, both of which letters had enclosed cheques, as

usual. This letter was followed by one on April 5th, saying:—

"Since writing you yesterday we have read in a French newspaper that the 6d. and 1s. Cayman Islands postage stamps are to be changed in colour and two new values added, 4d. and 5s. We shall be obliged if you will kindly inform us when these new stamps are likely to be issued, but it must be understood that the stamps we ordered on January 23rd and March 15th are to be of the old issue, i.e. 6d., brown, and 1s., orange."

At the same time a further cheque was enclosed for some more of these two stamps.

Another letter was sent on April 8th, acknowledging receipt of the stamps that had been ordered in January, and that had been duly supplied, and again repeating the reminder that the 6d. and 1s. stamps ordered on March 15th and April 5th were to be of the old issue. This letter also contained a cheque for £30 for a supply of the new stamps, and the order was duly executed, without any objection being made to the cheque; and the same was the case with various subsequent orders for supplies of the new stamps, which were also accompanied by cheques. I mention this because one of the reasons given for not supplying stamps asked for was that cheques were sent instead of cash, but it is curious that when

ordinary stamps, only, were ordered, the cheques seem to have been readily accepted.

The first letter I have from the Postmistress of the Cayman Islands is dated May 30, 1907, and is in reply to the letter of April 5th quoted above. It contains the following statement:—

"I regret to say that the old issue has been withdrawn from circulation and cannot now be supplied by the Post Office at face value."

The cheque sent for the stamps was returned, and a request was added that future cheques might not be made out for more than £5 each, owing to difficulty in cashing larger ones.

Following this are other statements relating to the withdrawn stamps, the fate of which it may be well to trace before going into the question of the disposal of the surcharged stamps, rendered necessary by this withdrawal.

On September 18th the Postmistress says, in reply to a question from Messrs. W. K. and Co.:—

"No, the old 6d., brown, and 1s., orange, have not been destroyed nor are they likely to be, neither are they on sale at face value."

On October 11th:—

"I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of August 31st, 1907, and to say in reply that I do not know what the Commissioner intends doing with the old stamps as he has not told me. I know though that he will not sell them at the face value."

And again on November 9th:—

"The Commissioner has taken over all the old issue of stamps, and I think it would be best if you would write to him and find out at what value he would be willing to sell them. I haven't heard him say, so I don't know what he intends doing with them."

In the meantime the first of the surcharged stamps, the "One Halfpenny" on 1d., had been issued, and in October, 1907, Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. wrote to various business people in the islands, with a view to obtaining stamps from them, in case they were not obtainable from the Post Office. The results of these letters, so far as the surcharged stamps are concerned, I will deal with later; one result appears to have been the following letter, which is of some importance:—

"Grand Cayman, B.W. Indies,
"Dec. 9th, 1907.

"Sirs,—I am in a position to dispose of the whole of the remainder of the issue of stamps withdrawn from circulation in March, 1907, viz. ½d., 1d., 2½d., 6d., and 1s., also the whole of the remainder of the original 1d. stamps (Queen's Head) issued by this Government. The face value of the two parcels is £670 or thereabout, to be disposed of in one lot.

"In addition there are also a few sheets of surcharged stamps, viz.:

1 sheet 1d. surcharged One Halfpenny.
2 sheets 5s. , , ½d. (19 sheets originally).
2 , , 5s. , , 1d. (15 , ,).
"None of the surcharged stamps have been issued to Stamp Dealers.

"If you care to handle these stamps I shall be glad to have your offer.

"I remain,

"Yours sincerely,

(Signed) "W. M. COCHRAN."

This letter crossed one from Messrs. W. K. and Co., dated December 10th, 1907, which was addressed to the Commissioner of the Cayman Islands, asking (as suggested by the Postmistress) what stamps were in his possession, and what was going to be done with them. The reply was as follows:—

"Commissioner's Office,

"Grand Cayman, Jan. 29, 1908.

"Sir,—The postage stamps referred to in your letter of Dec. 10, 1907, are now in the hands of the Governor of Jamaica, to whom you must cable any offer you wish to make.

"The stamps for sale are:—

1.	81 sheets at ½d.	. £ 20 5 0
2.	29½ , , 1d.	. 147 15 0
3.	88½ , , 2½d.	. 111 0 10
4.	40½ , , 6d.	. 122 1 0
5.	45½ , , 1s.	. 274 12 0
6.	Odd Stamps	. 14 3½

£676 8 1½

"I have the honour to be

Sir

"Your obedient Servant,

(Signed) "GEORGE S. S. HIRST

"Commissioner.

"Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

"Ipswich."

These were the stamps which were sold a few months later by the Crown Agents for the Colonies, and it is not denied that they were also the stamps which, early in December, 1907, were being offered by Mr. Cochran, whose position in the matter is not quite clear. But one thing is quite clear, namely, that during the whole of the time when the Commissioner was obtaining provisional stamps from Jamaica or having them manufactured in the Cayman Islands, he had an ample supply of ordinary stamps, fully available for postal use, in his own possession.

Let us see what his explanation is.

A letter to Messrs. Whitfield King and Co., from the Colonial Office, dated "Downing Street, 7 October, 1908," contains a summary of the Commissioner's reply to the complaints that had been made, and from this I extract the following:—

"The Commissioner of the Cayman Islands in his reply to these allegations states that all the old issue referred to had been withdrawn and

packed away in the safe when he arrived in the Colony on the 16th of March, 1907, and that the succeeding issue was then on sale in the Post Office.

"The report then proceeds to explain that the stamps were withdrawn from issue early in the year 1907, and no surcharges were sold till October 11th, 1907; during which time a complete new issue had been disposed of. Instructions were issued to the Postmistress that surcharged stamps were not to be supplied to any one, unless they were actually asked for over the counter,* so that in declining to send you any provisional stamps she only carried out instructions. The necessity for the surcharges was due to the dealers buying stamps in very much larger quantities than they had done before. With regard to the offer from the merchant of Grand Cayman, the Commissioner suggests that it may have been due to the fact that he offered to sell to this person, or to any one else,† the whole of the withdrawn issue for face value, subject to the Governor's‡ approval, which however was not obtained. And he indignantly repudiates your suggestion that he was in any way connected with Mr. Cochran."

Now let us see what all this amounts to. I am not going to accuse Mr. Hirst of any such wickedness as speculating in stamps, but it certainly would appear that for a gentleman in such a responsible position he showed a singular want of ordinary common sense and business capacity.

He arrived in the Cayman Islands in the middle of March, 1907, and we may presume took over from his predecessor the safe containing six or seven hundred pounds' worth of stamps, or possibly more. The main stock of stamps would have been in this safe, in the hands of the Commissioner, who would issue them to the Postmistress as required. His letter to the Colonial Secretary of Jamaica, in June or July, 1907, which I quoted last month, shows plainly that this was the case, and therefore he must (or should) have known what these "withdrawn" stamps were. A few months after his arrival there was a shortage of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. value of the "complete new issue" referred to above. Now whatever the nature of the withdrawn stamps of that value might have been, it would surely have been simpler to have issued them for use (either on his own responsibility or with the sanction of the Governor of Jamaica) than to go to the trouble and expense of sending forty sheets of another value to Jamaica to be overprinted. And if the Commissioner had taken the trouble to look into the stock of stamps in

* It should be noted that these "instructions" were never quoted by the Postmistress as a reason for not supplying the stamps to dealers.

† Repeated statements by the Postmistress in May, September, October, and November, 1907, seem to show that this was not the general impression in the colony at the time.

‡ The Governor of Jamaica.

his possession, he would have found that he had eighty-one sheets of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamps, which were absolutely identical with those of the "complete new issue" of that value, which was so nearly exhausted.

What reason there was for terming the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. stamps in use in 1907 a "complete new issue" it is difficult to understand. The first stamps of the Cayman Islands were the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d., with the Queen's Head, issued in 1900. These were succeeded by similar stamps with the King's Head in 1901-2, when for reasons best known to the local authorities a large number of the Queen's Head 1d. stamps were withdrawn from sale, though never demonetized. The first King's Head stamps, $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., $\frac{2}{3}$ d., 6d., and 1s., had the single Crown and CA watermark, and these appear to have been completely sold out, being gradually superseded in 1905-6 by similar stamps with multiple watermark. In March, 1907, 6d. and 1s. stamps in new colours first made their appearance, accompanied by two new values, 4d. and 5s., and it was then that the 6d., brown, and 1s., orange, stamps referred to in the correspondence were withdrawn from sale, again for no good reason.

That there was no new issue of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. or 1d. stamps at that period is shown by the fact that the stamps surcharged "One Half-penny" are the 1d. with King's Head and multiple watermark, which had been issued in 1906; and further by the fact that Messrs. Stanley Gibbons received a small supply of both $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. of the same series in September, 1907. As a matter of fact, there was no new issue of those two values until after (perhaps a month after) the manufacture of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. on 5s., when the stamps inscribed "POSTAGE & REVENUE" appeared; and it seems that the stamps withdrawn in March, 1907, offered for sale on the spot in the following December, and finally disposed of by the Crown Agents in May, 1908, were (so far as the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. are concerned) the very stamps that the Commissioner was running short of in October and November, 1907! If, under these circumstances, collectors came to the conclusion that those stamps had been withdrawn on purpose to afford an excuse for issuing provisionals, I think it must be acknowledged that they had every reason for such an opinion.

The first provisional, however, was manufactured and issued, and the result should have shown the Commissioner what the result of these issues was likely to be. It was, I fancy, on July 11th (not June 11th) that he wrote to Jamaica, sending forty sheets of 1d. stamps to be converted into $\frac{1}{2}$ d. He stated that he then had in stock seventeen sheets of the lower value, which would not last him eight weeks. Apparently they lasted exactly

three months, for we are now told (see above) that "no surcharges were sold till October 11th." There were then put on sale the forty sheets of Halfpenny on 1d., which, at the ordinary rate of consumption, should have been sufficient for four or five months, but which were all sold out by the 22nd of November, on which date the Commissioner states, "I had for the supply of the whole Dependency one sheet of halfpenny stamps and not a single penny stamp." A most distressing state of affairs; evidently the Commissioner was quite at his wit's end, for even in this dire extremity it does not seem to have occurred to him to look into his safe and see whether any of the 81 sheets of ½d. stamps and 295 sheets of 1d. were sufficiently good to be used in such an emergency.

Really I do not know whether it is more unkind to hint, as has been done in some quarters, that the Commissioner was too good-natured to attempt to check the predatory instincts of the simple islanders, than to suggest, as his own explanations seem to do, that he had not sufficient common sense to make use of the stamps stowed away in his safe!

The provisionals having been issued the usual result ensued; indeed I might almost say that any one (except perhaps an exceptionally innocent Colonial Official) would have known beforehand what would happen. The Postmistress had been given instructions to the effect "that surcharged stamps were not to be supplied to any one, unless they were actually asked for over the counter," but that did not prevent a four months' supply disappearing in five or six weeks. The sports had begun, and the action taken by the Commissioner provided two additional prizes, which were eagerly competed for by local candidates, no others being admitted.

On the face of it this seems fair enough. As I said last month, "It matters nothing to the Secretary of State whether speculation in stamps puts money into the pockets of local speculators or of European dealers," and it might be argued that it also matters nothing to collectors. But as a matter of fact, there is this very important difference to the collector: if a dealer gets a fair quantity of a stamp, whether a provisional or not, he is content with a reasonable profit; the local speculator is not nearly so modest. An English dealer stated some twelve months ago that he was "fortunate enough to secure several sheets each of the ½d. on 5s. and 1d. on 5s." of the Cayman Islands at a cost of between *three and four hundred pounds*. The face value of the whole issue of these two stamps, according to the Commissioner's report quoted last month, was only £12 15s. If the Commiss-

sioner is correct in stating, as he does in the report to the Colonial Office to which I have previously referred, that down to October or November, 1907, "nobody in Grand Cayman had the slightest interest in stamps," a speculative interest seems to have developed with remarkable rapidity; but whether that interest was, as he goes on to say, "created by applications from stamp collectors," or whether it was due in some degree to the opportunities offered by small issues of provisional stamps, is perhaps open to question. In any case the result has been disastrous in converting some at least of the simple Cayman Islanders into extortioners of the greediest description.

With all this local speculation about, it was not unnatural that Miss Parsons, the local Postmistress, should come in for some share of blame from correspondents who were endeavouring to obtain these provisional stamps direct. She complains bitterly of this in some of her letters, but it is curious that she does not allude in a single one of them to the fact that she had been instructed not to sell the surcharged stamps to any one except over the counter; indeed she actually disobeyed those instructions to the extent of sending Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. ten shillings' worth of ½d. on 1d. stamps in a letter dated November 12, 1907. Even later than this, in a letter of "April 31 [sic], 1908," when she writes: "I hate for you to think that its for my benefit that I don't send you the stamps you wish for," there is not a word about any regulations or instructions preventing her from supplying the stamps, and she adds: "If you'll believe me I've never bought stamps of any kind (surcharged or otherwise) to make any profit for myself." I do not gather that any charge of this kind had been made by Messrs. Whitfield King and Co., but in connection with the statement just quoted it may be of interest to note the circumstance related below.

In October, 1907, Messrs. W. K. and Co. wrote (as already stated) to various business people in the Cayman Islands, on the subject of stamps; one of their letters was handed by its receiver to a gentleman, who replied to it as follows:—

"Grand Cayman,
"30th Nov., 1907.
"Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.,
"Ipswich.

"Dear Sirs,—Your letter of the 15th Oct. last to —— of this Island, re Postage Stamps, was referred to me by them.

"In reply thereto I beg to say that the issue 1d. stamps overprinted ½d., has been exhausted, and a small quantity of five shilling stamps overprinted ½d. and 1d. has been issued. I managed to secure five sheets of the unused ones, before

the sale of them was stopped. If you would like to have them please say what you pay for them. There is four sheets 1d. and one sheet of $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

"I have also a lot of used stamps of different countries, among them some English stamps of 1876."

"Yours faithfully,
(Signed) "EDMUND PARSONS."

It seems that the profit disclaimed by Miss Parsons was not entirely lost to the family, for further inquiry showed that the writer of the above letter was the father of the Postmistress. And I trust he was not so unnatural a parent as to refuse to share his profits with the daughter who sold him the stamps over the Post Office counter.

I do not suggest that there was anything criminal about the transaction; Mr. Parsons had as much right to speculate in these stamps as any one else. And if this was the little lot that was afterwards sold for between three and four hundred pounds, I should feel that Mr. Parsons was almost as "fortunate" as the purchaser who congratulated himself upon his bargain. But the transaction shows plainly enough what an opening is given by these provisional issues for undue speculation, and what a temptation they may be to postal officials to take advantage of their opportunities.

For dishonest attempts at speculation of a very different nature the Colonial authorities are, of course, in no way responsible; and I should not refer to anything of the kind here if it were not for the fact that the Commissioner endeavoured to answer the legitimate complaints of collectors that the provisionals were entirely unnecessary, and of dealers that they could not obtain the stamps they ordered, by bringing forward a particularly disgraceful case of this kind with a view to showing that all stamp dealers are of the same sort. He wrote as follows, on the 15th October, 1908, to the Colonial Secretary, Jamaica:—

"I respectfully submit that the letter marked B should if possible be further enquired into, as it appears to me little less than a gross attempt on the part of a stamp dealer, which fraternity appears so anxious to have nothing but honest transactions, to induce an official of this Government to commit a felony.

"The writer of the letter lives in the United States of America and therefore there might be some difficulty in dealing with him.

"Fortunately Miss Parsons and the present postmaster are above such transactions, but had this inducement fallen into the hands of less conscientious officials considerable harm would have resulted.

"B

"Long Beach, California,
"August 28th, 1908.

"Miss Gwendolyn Parsons,
"George Town, Cayman IIs.

"Dear Madam,—As a collector of postage stamps for nearly forty years I am naturally

interested in the stamps of your island, and as I also speculate some in provisional issues, beg leave to make you the following proposition and give you my word as a mason that all correspondence on the subject will be strictly confidential. My proposition is—to purchase of you £10 worth of 1d. stamps which on receipt by myself I will have surcharged "Halfpenny" in a certain type and return same to you—you to officially record the issue of the £10 worth as $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamps just on sale the day of receipt by you, and register me a letter of that date bearing some of the stamps in prepayment of postage. At the time I return the surcharged stamps to you I will enclose another £10 for your trouble in the transaction. I trust you will receive this in the spirit in which I wrote it, as a strictly legitimate proposition, and I believe, as I have said, that the whole matter will be considered entirely between ourselves.

"Very truly yours,

"BREWSTER C. KENYON."

"P.S.—If accepted on what office shall I draw P.O. order, or would you prefer the money in some other form? I regret that I have no other return postage than the 3d. Jamaican.

"B. C. K."

In replying to the letter of the Commissioner, the Colonial Secretary says:—

"A copy of your letter and its enclosures has been sent to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, as an illustration of the methods of action of the class of persons who have been complaining that they cannot get surcharged stamps from the Postal Authorities at Grand Cayman."

As the passage which I have italicized contains a most serious reflection upon stamp dealers in general, and upon Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. in particular (their complaints having been the main cause of the inquiry, and their names being mentioned over and over again in the Commissioner's report), it is not surprising that the firm made a strong protest against such a statement being published. They may or may not be sufficiently consoled by a paragraph in a letter from the Colonial Office, Downing Street, dated February 18, 1909, which says:—

"The Earl of Crewe regrets that you should object to publication of the correspondence, especially as it is in his opinion clear that the methods adopted by Mr. Kenyon are not and cannot be attributed to you by the Governor of Jamaica."

If the Earl of Crewe is right, the Governor or the Colonial Secretary of Jamaica was singularly unfortunate in the words he adopted for expressing his meaning, and it would be well if he withdrew an expression which certainly is liable to misconstruction. Further comment on this extraordinary case seems unnecessary, the facts speak for themselves.

The latest news from the Islands is contained in the following:—

"POST OFFICE NOTICE.

"On and after February 1st next all Postage Stamps issued by the Government of the Cayman Islands will only be supplied to applicants for cash over the counter.

"By order.

"W. GRAHAM McCUSAULAND,
"Postmaster.

"January 2, 1909."

Clearness of expression is evidently not a very strong point in those parts, it would

almost appear from the notice that only people who ask for cash are to receive postage stamps. The meaning, however, is sufficiently obvious; dealers who want Cayman Islands stamps must in future pay a commission to persons on the spot, and collectors who want a few copies must pay a visit to Grand Cayman. It is a system of rigid Protection of local industries and local industrials, which should appeal to any member of a Government wedded to the pure doctrines of Free Trade!

Notes on Great Britain

By the late THOMAS PEACOCK

(Continued from page 136.)

WITH reference to my suggestion that Mr. Peacock's date "13 May, 1840," for the first issue of the "Postage Label," might be due to his having found some record of the date of the first sale of the Twopence stamp at the General Post Office (which was the 13th), Mr. H. S. Hodson tells me that the 2d. was undoubtedly issued in the provinces almost as early as the 1d. An entire envelope, in the possession of Mr. G. Mackay, of Birmingham, bearing a 2d. stamp, is postmarked May 7, 1840, and moreover contains a letter of that date, proving that there was no mistake in the date stamp. And as May 7th was the date of an official circular with specimens of this value attached to it, it is evident that this must be the actual first day of use.

* * *

Coming then to the important question of the colour and the discoloration of the paper, Mr. Peacock's first note on this subject is attached to the last paragraph of page 56 of the book. The authors say (referring to the original tint), "The colour of the paper was greyish white"; Mr. Peacock says, "I should call it a brownish white." Not an important point, but showing that both to the official eye and to that of philatelists the paper was never a pure white.

The composition of the gum, which was always supposed to have something to do with the subsequent discoloration of the paper, is described variously on pages 60 and 61. Mr. Peacock evidently accepts the statement that, at one period, "in order to add to the adhesiveness of the stamps a certain quantity of gelatine was added" (to the potato starch); a note is inserted saying, "This gelatine was made by the boiling down of the rough trimmings of hides, as imported, before the hides were tanned." It

seems not unlikely that such a mixture might turn the paper *brownish*.

The second paragraph on page 62 commences: "The one penny stamps printed in ordinary black printer's ink show no traces of discoloration, nor are any to be found in some of the essays printed in red-brown." To this Mr. Peacock adds: "The specimens of the trial printing by the first red ink used (see page 76) show this blue discoloration strongly." And on page 77 (not 76) there was affixed a stamp with the paper *very* strongly and uniformly *blued*.

Returning to the subject in a note between pages 110 and 111 of the book, on which the *blued* safety paper is described, Mr. Peacock writes:—

"It is in a way amusing to note the discussions of the Philatelists upon this fact of the blueness of the paper. First, as regards the old Penny Posts, and, secondly, in regard to the paper of the type printed stamps. The two kinds of bluenesses, if I may say so, were, as regards cause, entirely dissimilar. That in the old Penny Post arose unquestionably from an ingredient in the ink acting upon the ingredients in the texture of the paper. The latter being sodden with water when the imprint was taken readily allowed any ingredient in the ink to disseminate itself through the wet pulp and the blueness consequently showed at the back of the sheet through the transparent gum, and around the edges of the stamps on the face of the impression. The red colour of the old Penny Post, consisted principally of an oxide of iron, and I think the blue stain had connexion with this and some acidulous fermentation of the size in the paper.

"As regards some of the surface stamps, the paper had, as Mr. Westoby states, prussiate of potass mixed with its pulp, and the blueness was sometimes in some degree caused by an excess of this chemical. I have observed that the underside of the paper was bluer than the upper face, which showed the precipitation of some matter heavier than the pulp itself. But there were also, occasionally, observed blue spots in the paper,

which, it was generally believed, arose from the presence of minute particles of iron in the pulp, and was connected with the interaction of the prussiate of potass and the stale size.

"After our worrying the paper maker sufficiently these things eventually improved."

Mr. Peacock was, of course, perfectly right in saying that the discoloration of the two natures of *blued* paper was due to entirely different causes, but collectors still want to know a little more about those causes, especially that which *blued* the paper of the early 1d. *red*. In the case of the surface-printed stamps it seems to be certain that something was purposely introduced into the paper, not with the object of staining it *blue*, as that we know was considered an objection, but in order to render the cleaning of the stamps by the removal of either writing ink or printer's ink difficult, if not impossible. We also know that, in the case of the early fourpence postage stamp and various fiscal stamps, the paper had something resembling an enamelled surface, which made the ink of the impression liable to chip off. Probably this had nothing to do with the *bluing* of the paper, which is stated distinctly (in the book) to be due to the prussiate of potash, but the two characteristics seem frequently to occur together.

The *bluing* of the early 1d. *red*, is quite a different thing, both in appearance and nature, and more especially in the fact that the cause of it is even yet uncertain, to some extent. The old description was "blued by the gum," but this theory was disproved by the fact that some of the *imprimatur* sheets at Somerset House, which had never been gummed, were found to be as deeply *blued* as the issued stamps; and there can be no doubt that some ingredient in the ink is the principal (perhaps the sole) cause of the discoloration. It should be remarked that all the Perkins Bacon stamps on *blued* paper are printed in ink which would have a *blue* ingredient. The common colours are *red-brown*, *blue*, and *green*. There was evidently something in the *red-brown* which was peculiarly liable to run into the paper; there may have been some chemical action which helped the *bluing*, but there was doubtless some *blue* tint in the ink itself. The *blue* and the *green* inks account for the tinting of the paper naturally enough.

The first Colonial stamps supplied by Perkins Bacon and Co. were the Mauritius with figure of Britannia, in *red-brown*, *green*, and *magenta*, in 1849. The paper of the *red-brown* has the usual *blue* colour of the Great Britain 1d.; in the *green* the colour is more *green* than *blue*, whilst in the *magenta* the paper is equally discoloured, but the tint is *magenta*, like that of the stamp. In two out of the three stamps the

agent is simply the ink of the impression, and the same is no doubt the case with the third, only one does not so readily connect *blue* with *brown*, of which, however, the former would be an ingredient.

It may be noted also that the surface-printed stamps, both postal and fiscal, on *blued* safety paper are likewise in colours of which *blue* would form a part.

Finally, one would like to know what were the steps taken by Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co. to prevent the *bluing*, which seems to have ceased altogether, in the course of the 'fifties, to affect any of their stamps.

* * *

In two places in the book reference is made to *adjustment* of the needles or punches of the perforating machines, and in each case Mr. Peacock makes a note to the effect that there was nothing of the kind. The first mention occurs on page 67, where it is stated that the principal difficulty of the application of perforation to the stamps "was solved by arranging the needles or punches so as to be capable of adjustment." Mr. Peacock says: "The authors were mistaken upon this point. The needles were never adjustable." This fact was recognized in the Appendix to the book, which was published in *The Philatelic Record*, in 1883. It is there added (page 95, June, 1883) that the statement on page 67

"Must not be understood to imply that they could be separately altered in their relative positions as regards one another. The adjustment of the entire alignment or row of needles was, from the construction of the machine, the only movement that was possible, and that in but one direction; so that, however manipulated, no variation could be produced in the number of holes punched in any given space. We mention this, as it appears that an erroneous conclusion has been drawn from the statement in the text."

The second reference to *adjustment* is on page 69, where, in describing the comb machines used, the authors say:—

"There is consequently one row of needles as long as the horizontal row of twelve stamps on the sheet, and at right angles to this are thirteen short rows capable of adjustment in such a manner as to adapt the machine either to the perforation of a sheet where the stamps are close together, or where they were printed in separate 'panes,' as was formerly the case with most of the stamps in the Third Section."

This suggests that the vertical rows of needles could be moved sideways, and the spaces between those rows altered, but it does not seem possible that such can ever have been the case, as a different bed-plate would have been required for each adjustment of this kind. The same idea is expressed in the note on p. 109, which says:—

"It may have been observed that wherever the stamps were printed in small panes, one and sometimes both of those on the outside of the row were perforated on the outer edge at a distance of about a quarter of an inch from the impression. This was caused by the adjustment of the vertical rows of the perforating needles, necessitated by the stamps being printed in panes, separated from each other by a space of about half an inch."

We all know that this used to be the case with the Colonial stamps, arranged in four panes to the sheet; there were thirteen vertical rows of needles, and the central row perforated the centre of the space running vertically between the panes. Later on a fourteenth row of needles was introduced, and each side of the space was perforated, so as not to leave an extra margin on any of the stamps; but was this a matter of "adjusting" the rows of needles, or did it mean a new set of needles differently arranged? In any case a different bed-plate would be wanted.

Messrs. Wright and Creeke, in their work on *The Adhesive Stamps of the British Isles*, say distinctly (p. 10):—

"The thirteen vertical rows of needles were, in the later machines, capable of lateral adjustment, so as to adapt the machine for perforating sheets, in which the stamps were arranged either in one or, as in the early issues of the surface-printed series, in several panes."

On the other hand, the same authorities, on page 32 of the same work, state equally emphatically, that the machine and the needles (or "pins" as they there call them) were two separate things altogether:—

"It may here be remarked that a change in the gauge of the perforation does not necessitate an alteration of the machine itself. The 'set of pins,' which, whatever their gauge, can be worked on any machine, consists of a plate on which the pins are *fixed*, a perforated guide plate through which the pins work and under which the sheets are placed, and a bed-plate, furnished with holes, into which the pins pass after perforating the paper."

I do not wish to lay undue stress upon the word "*fixed*," which I have ventured to put in italics, but I am inclined to suppose that any "lateral adjustment" involved the insertion of another "set of pins," complete with guide-plate and bed-plate; and it is evident that a row of twelve stamps, with a half-inch space between Nos. 6 and 7, would require a longer horizontal line of pins than a row of the same number without the space (for there was, I believe, never more or less than one extra hole, at each end of the horizontal line, outside the first and last vertical rows of holes), so that in addition to shifting seven of the vertical rows of pins, a few more must have been added at one end of the horizontal row.

Mr. Peacock declares positively that there was no adjustment of this nature. A second note, referring to the statement on page 69 of Messrs. Philbrick and Westoby's book, says: "'Adjustment' as regards the thirteen rows of punches is an inaccurate expression. The adjustment was in the machine by means of the racks which regulated the movement of the sheets under the punches."

There is a certain amount of confusion here, no doubt. Two different natures of adjustment are, apparently, referred to in the book; the second of these was the supposed lateral adjustment of the vertical rows of pins, so as to make them fit sheets variously arranged—this I suggest implied the use of various "sets of pins." The other was that which is stated to have solved the difficulties of the original application of perforation, and it is this that is referred to by Mr. Peacock. It was undoubtedly wrong to say that there was any "adjustment" of the punches, but if we look at the evidence given by Mr. Archer before the Select Committee on Postage Stamp Labels, in March, 1852, we shall see that great difficulties arose from the variations in the dimensions of the sheets of stamps of those days, and that these were got over, partly by "an adjusting power," as it is there termed, being "attached to the machine, to extend or contract the movements to suit the various sizes of the sheets," and partly by prevailing upon the contractors to make their plates more uniform. The variations were due in part to the plates not being always of exactly uniform size, the spaces between the stamps varying slightly, and in part to irregular expansion and contraction of the paper, first when wetted for printing and afterwards dried, and again when gummed and dried.

When the plates had been made uniform (I believe a special method was invented by Messrs. Bacon and Petch to ensure the correct alignment of the impressions on the plate), the only cause of irregularity would be the paper, and the variations in this would be greatest in the length of the sheets; and it is easy to understand that difficulties thus occasioned could be obviated by some sort of "adjusting power" in the machine (not in the "sets of pins"), which enabled the sheets to be passed correctly under the pins, whatever their dimensions might be. Mr. Peacock goes into this question in a further note, to which he attached a technical description, published in *The Engineer* for June 26, 1874, of the machine as then improved by him, but he does not tell us what was the nature of the "adjusting power" attached to the early machines. He says:—

"In point of fact, before the perforation of stamps, there had been little or no perforation of paper. Bemrose's single-line foot machine

for the counterfoils of cheques came some time later. The gum of the sheets and the large quantities to be dealt with made the perforation, before experience had been gained, a very troublesome operation. The machines, massive, and costing about £400 each, were driven by steam, there being five of them in all. As first made they were full of constructional defects, and it took years to perfect them. Napier* gave very little help, and such improvements as were slowly made, in the midst of other pressing official occupations, were mainly made by Ormond Hill and myself, till in 1874, assisted by Mr. Sworder—our 'Practical Mechanician'—I devised the adjustable rack. This was an immense improvement and was quickly followed by the 'Continuous Feed,' which nearly doubled the output. Soon after this the machines were taken over by the contractors and removed to their premises, where all the perforation has since been carried on. The splitting of the bottom plates, which Mr. Westoby refers to,† was not alone due to the closeness of the holes, but, also, to the fact of the plate being made of a double thickness of steel and brass, riveted together before the drilling. The punched out pieces of paper wedged themselves between the brass and steel plates, gradually lifting and splitting the latter, despite of the holes being slightly trumpeted upwards from the bottom of the plates."

I have dealt with this portion of Mr. Peacock's notes at considerable length, because this question of the perforating machines is an especially interesting one, and certain erroneous ideas seem to have been promulgated by some of the leading authorities on the subject. Mr. Peacock appears to have made some valuable improvements in these machines and in others employed at Somerset House. He gives a little list of his inventions, as follows:—

* Mr. James M. Napier, referred to on page 68 of *The Postage and Telegraph Stamps of Great Britain*.

† *Idem*, p. 68.

Adjustable rack, 1874.
Continuous feed, 1875.
Machine for cheque stamping, 1880.
Multiple Press, 1893.

And it is satisfactory to learn that on his retirement, at the end of 1893, his services were recognized by the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, as shown in the following letter:—

"Treasury Chambers,
"8th February, 1894.

"Gentlemen,—The Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury have had before them the recommendation in your report of 20 ultimo that a sum of £1000 should be granted to Mr. T. Peacock upon his retirement from the post of Inspector of stamping in your Department, in consideration of the valuable mechanical improvements which he has designed and applied to the stamping machinery under his care.

"My Lords have read with interest the honourable testimony which you bear to the value of the services rendered by Mr. Peacock throughout his career in your Department. They have before had occasion to express their satisfaction at the spirit in which Mr. Peacock and others of his colleagues have addressed themselves to improvements in mechanical appliances for use in the service, and they have willingly recognized from time to time their claim to some pecuniary reward beyond the regular pay of their office [alluding to grants to Mr. Edwin Hill, etc., T. P.].

"In view, therefore, of the very considerable services rendered by Mr. Peacock, and bearing in mind the grants which already have been made to him in former years, my Lords consent to your proposal that a sum of £1000 be granted to him as a special gratuity upon his retirement from his office.

"I am, etc.,
(Sd.) "R. E. WELBY.
"The Commissioners of
"Inland Revenue."

(To be continued.)

Philatelic Notes and Queries

By E. B. EVANS

Afghan Reprints

I MIGHT cut my remarks upon this subject as short as the celebrated chapter upon *The Snakes of Iceland*, by simply stating that "There are no Afghan reprints," and not, I believe, be altogether wrong. But inasmuch as all the authorities on reprints give long lists of varieties under "Afghanistan," it would be disrespectful on my part to treat them so summarily. Captain Ohrt, whose work upon Reprints (in course of publication in *The Philatelic World*) has drawn my attention to this question, follows

for the most part Mr. Bacon's Handbook ten years ago, and in both books it is acknowledged that the so-called *reprints* of the types of 1880 to 1890 (the only Afghan stamps noted under this heading) appeared during the lifetime of the stamps themselves and that they are therefore in reality Fanciful Impressions or Impressions on Fanciful Papers, believed to have been struck to meet philatelic demands.

The latest book upon *The Postage Stamps of Afghanistan*, by Sir D. P. Masson and Mr. B. Gordon Jones, unfortunately do

not attempt to discriminate between the stamps on coloured paper that were issued in the ordinary way, certain varieties of which are hardly known unused, and those which appear to be of a more philatelic character. The book says : "Innumerable varieties of flimsy, foreign-made wove and laid papers, both white and coloured, were used haphazard," a statement which I think is not entirely accurate. The intention seems to have been to use *white* paper throughout, and it was not until 1883 that we heard of *wove* paper being used, in place of the *laid bâtonné* which appeared to have been uniformly employed during the first three years of the issue. Early in 1884, a few copies of the 1 abasi were received on *green wove*, *blue wove*, and *yellow laid bâtonné* papers, and these varieties are still of considerable rarity. Nothing of the same kind was chronicled in 1885, but in 1886 there seems to have been a fresh edition on coloured papers, and it was then that all three values came together upon *yellow*, *orange*, and *pink wove* papers, and on *green* and *lilac laid bâtonné*. It was at that time supposed that the different coloured papers distinguished the stamps for different districts, as in the case of the different coloured inks used for the earlier issues ; but for this theory there was doubtless no foundation whatever. The true history of these, and later varieties of the same types on coloured papers of divers natures, is not, I think, fully known, but all of them are scarcer than the same values on white ; and if it be the case that at one time coloured papers were used indiscriminately, it certainly was not so at the beginning of the issue, and apparently not so at the end, for the second type of the 1 abasi is only known on one variety of coloured paper.

**

Bahamas

In the February number of *The Philatelic Journal of India* the editor returns to the charge relative to the faulty cataloguing of the Bahamian stamps, to which I referred in October last ; and I am bound to acknowledge that there is a certain amount of foundation for his criticism, though I am still doubtful whether it is necessary to separate the shilling stamp of 1863-98 from its early companions, solely on the ground that it is surface-printed while they are line-engraved. A case like this, in which for some twenty-one years one value only was printed by one process and the others were printed by another, is not quite on the same footing as a case like that of Great Britain, where for a longer period all the low values were printed by one process, and went through divers modifications of design, etc., while all the higher values were printed by a

different process, and also underwent modifications of design, etc., which in no way corresponded with those of the former series. In the case of Great Britain it was practically necessary to divide the two natures of stamps and treat their histories separately ; in the case of Bahamas the necessity is not so apparent, because there were no variations of design, and the variations that did take place, after the introduction of the shilling stamp, are identically the same for that value as for those produced by line-engraving.

The other criticisms, I believe, are better founded. The old theory (which I fear I helped to promulgate), that the $12\frac{1}{2}$ perforation came before and was superseded by the 14, is now known to be incorrect in many cases ; in Bahamas the $12\frac{1}{2}$ was doubtless a temporary perforation for the shilling stamp, and our contemporary is correct in stating that the first stamps of that value were perf. 14, and that those perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$ came some years later, the 14 gauge reappearing about 1875.

"Dr. Magnus," writing in *Le Timbre-Poste* for April, 1867, on the subject of perforations, which were then beginning to be noticed, says :—

"Perf. 13, the 4d. unwatermarked, and the 1d., 4d., and 6d. on paper watermarked with CC and Crown. The 1s. alone is perf. 14."

The watermarked stamps described as perf. 13 must have been perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$; it was considered in those days that a half perforation more or less was not to be noted ; the quotation shows that the 1s., perf. 14, was known as early as 1867, but it also shows that the 1d., 4d., and 6d., perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$, were in existence at that early date, and those were the only varieties on watermarked paper that so scientific a student as Dr. Legrand ("Dr. Magnus") had then met with.

The fact is that so late as 1882 no attempt had been made in the general catalogues to separate these two very distinct varieties of perforation. Moens never did it ; even in his last catalogue, that of 1892, he describes such stamps as "*piqués* $12\frac{1}{2}$, 14," and lumps them all together. I believe I may claim to have been the first to endeavour to make this classification, and it was necessarily done in a rather arbitrary fashion. The 14 perforation being so manifestly superior to the $12\frac{1}{2}$, which was generally badly cut, I took it for granted that it must always have been the earlier of the two, and the rarity of some of the stamps with that perforation confirmed me in that erroneous opinion. Even now the fact remains that there are apparently more varieties of shade of the 1d., Bahamas, perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$, than of the same value perf. 14, and that the 6d., watermark Crown and C C, is not known perf. 14 at all.

The 1s., perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$, was not known in 1882.

I well remember Mr. A. H. Wilson (Pemberton, Wilson, and Co.), who was rash enough to publish my catalogue, writing to tell me that, at a meeting of the Philatelic Society, London, the evening before, the 1s., Bahamas, perf. 12½, "had been exploded," and that he supposed he had better strike it out of the proof; and my joy at being able to write back to him to say how glad I was that my copy was not at the meeting, as it might have been damaged by the "explosion," but that as it remained all safe in my collection I thought it might remain in the proof. I merely mention this to show what the state of our knowledge was at that period, years after the stamps had been issued, and years before we had got together the information we now possess.

Finally, I acknowledge that the 1s., blue-green, of 1898, No. 38 in the Catalogue, might fairly be considered a variety of shade of No. 29, but the new shade came out many years after the original one, and it may be well to emphasize that fact.

Some day I will make an attempt at a classified arrangement of the fairly simple list of the Bahamas stamps, and see whether it will simplify or complicate them.

* * *

Queensland

IN the number of this journal for November 28, 1908, I referred to a most interesting paper, by Mr. Hausburg, in the *Philatelic Record*, on the subject of the varieties in the lithographed stamps of 1881, in which it was shown that of the 2s. 6d. there were ten varieties of type. These varieties were arranged in two horizontal rows thus:—

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10

Mr. P. L. Pemberton has since informed *The Ph. R.* that he has discovered a vertical pair formed of varieties 1 and 9, which would indicate that either Mr. Hausburg's arrangement was incorrect (which is extremely unlikely), or the arrangement was not constant. I would suggest that in all probability one of the transfers from the original block of ten was found to be defective, either in No. 4 or in No. 6, and that an impression of No. 1 or No. 9 was used to replace the imperfect transfer. Some misplaced varieties, doubtless due to this cause, are to be found on the sheets of Sarawak 1875 issue.

* * *

Alleged Stamp Fraud Dealers Accused of Selling Forgeries

AT Bow Street this afternoon John Stewart Lowden, 29, stamp dealer, of Villiers Street, Strand, and Henry Harmer, 39, stamp dealer, of Preston Road, Westcliff-on-Sea, were charged with "conspiring to obtain money and valuable securities by fraud from various persons who should deal with them or with the West End Stamp Company, or with Herbert Mack and Co., Limited, in buying stamps purporting to be issued for postage and revenue purposes in British North Borneo."

Only formal evidence of arrest was given.

Chief Inspector Stockley, of Scotland Yard, stated that when arrested Harmer asked who were the persons who had complained of being defrauded. On being told that a Mr. Brown, of Salisbury, was one of the deponents to the "information," he said, "Yes, I have had some business with him. There is an explanation to all this. I suppose you know I severed my connection with Mr. Lowden some time ago."

In a room upstairs witness found a large quantity of foreign stamps, among them being many British North Borneo of denominations varying from $\frac{1}{2}$ cent to 10 cents.

Witness arrested Lowden in Villiers Street, Strand. Lowden asked who the prosecutor was, and witness informed him that Mr.

Ackland, of Brighton, was one of the persons mentioned in the information.

Lowden then said, "I know him; this is a very bad business."

Witness found there a large quantity of stamps, including some British North Borneo.

In reply to the magistrate, Inspector Stockley said that proceedings were being taken against a certain individual in Paris, but they had no connection with this case. It was alleged that these forged stamps had been disposed of to a very large extent.

Accused were remanded on bail, Lowden to find two sureties in £1000 each, and Harmer two in £500.—*Star*, April 14, 1909.

"The Postmarks of the British Isles from 1840"

THE above work by the late Mr. John G. Hendy, now being published weekly as a Supplement to this paper, will in future be continued in fortnightly instalments. These instalments will consist of sixteen pages instead of eight as at present, and the next one to be issued will be contained in *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* dated May 8, 1909.

This alteration has been rendered necessary by the regulations affecting periodicals registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as newspapers.

New Issues and Discoveries

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Austria.—In our issue of January 9 we referred to the appearance of the Newspaper stamps, Type 48, on a thin unsurfaced paper, and it now seems that the Postage Due stamps, Type 63, are following their example. This change is, perhaps, due to the fact that the cost of thick surfaced paper has been found to be too great.

Up to the present we believe that the following values have actually been issued on the thin unsurfaced paper:—

Newspaper Stamps. 2, 10, and 20 heller.

Postage Due Stamps. 4, 6, 10, 20, and 100 heller.

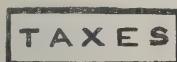
Colombia.—Mrs. Robert Davies has been kind enough to send us the latest type of 5 c., perf. 10, instead of perf. 13.



101

1908. Type 101 (Type 96 redrawn). (b) Perf. 10.
476| 5 c., blue.

Congo State.—We are indebted to Monsieur Th. Champion for the sight of three stamps overprinted "TAXES" in blue, indicating that these stamps do duty as Postage Dues. The overprint appears to have been impressed with a handstamp, so that we may expect the usual inverted and double varieties. The illustrations of the ordinary stamps will be found in our Catalogue.



25

POSTAGE DUE STAMPS. 1909. Issues of 1896-1900 overprinted with Type 25, in blue.

91| 5 | 5 c., black and green.
92| 6 | 10 c., " carmine.
93| 11 | 15 c., " ochre.

Crete.—Monsieur Champion sends a 1 lepton with a new type of the "ΕΛΛΑΣ" overprint, in large characters. We have only seen the three

low values up to the present with this overprint but Herr Borek lists the full set. On the 1 l., 2 l., and 5 l. the overprint is in red, and we believe that the same colour is used for the remaining values, but we have no certain information on this head, so we do not list the stamps.

Another correspondent, in Crete, sends us the 1 dr. stamp of the 1907 issue, overprinted with yet another kind of "ΕΛΛΑΣ," the characters being rounded and rather large, as illustrated below. This overprint we have only seen on the one stamp, in black.

Monsieur Champion also sends us the 1 lepton Postage Due, with the overprint "ΕΛΛΑΣ," but without the black overprint of value.

ΕΛΛΑΣ

39

ΕΛΛΑΣ

40

1909. Overprinted with Type 39, in red.

7| 1 l., chocolate (No. 101).
16| 2 l., slate-lilac (No. 101).
17| 5 l., green (No. 102).



32

1909. Type 32, overprinted with Type 40, in black.
1 dr., black and green.

ΕΛΛΑΣ

34

POSTAGE DUE STAMP. 1909(?) Type 51 overprinted with Type 34, in black.
217a| 1 dr., red (No. 207).

India (C. E. F.)—Mr. W. T. Wilson sends us a 12 annas overprinted "C. E. F." for use at the British military post office in China. It was only a week or two ago that we chronicled the new 1 anna with similar overprint.



50

C. E. F.

C

1909. Type 50 overprinted with Type C, in black.
616|12 a., purple on red.

Italian P.O.'s in Crete.—We learn from Champion's Bulletin (25.3.09) that the latest type of 25 c. has been overprinted for use in Crete.



39

LA CANEA

122

1909. Type 39 overprinted with Type 122, in black.
917|25 c., blue (No. 129).

Natal.—Champion's Bulletin (25.3.09) reports the 6d., 1s., and 2s. 6d. in the new type, reading "POSTAGE" twice. As we have not yet seen these stamps, and also as they may possibly be listed from specimen copies, we do not chronicle them formally.

Nicaragua.—We are indebted to Monsieur Th. Champion for five new Official stamps, formed by surcharging a long fiscal stamp.



116

10 cts.

CORREOS

1907

OFICIAL

10 CTS

117

OFFICIAL STAMPS. 1908. Fiscal stamps, Type 116, surcharged as Type 117 (but with date "1908"), in violet (V.), brown (Br.), red (R.), olive-brown (Ol. Br.), and green (G.). Perf. 14.

- 10 c. on 1 c., indigo (V.).
- 35 c. on 1 c., " (Br.).
- 50 c. on 1 c., " (R.).
- 1 p. on 1 c., " (Ol. Br.).
- 2 p. on 1 c., " (G.).

Paraguay.—Mr. W. W. Munn very kindly sends two more stamps overprinted "1908" (Type 47); one is a 60 c., rosy crimson (Type 39), and the other a 1 p., Prussian blue (Type 40). We do not formally chronicle these stamps, as our correspondent states that they were obtained

by favour, and will not be issued to the public until April 20, 1909, and will most probably be overprinted "1909."

With regard to No. 143a, listed in our issue March 13, Mr. Munn states that the whole issue was bought up by one rascally speculator, not being used, nor any issued to the public. We do not ask our readers to delete the chronicle No. 143a, as our experience of the operations of the speculator in Paraguay is that he is generally a fool, and would never spoil his own market by omitting the usual precaution of allowing a few of the stamps he has cornered to pass through the post.

Monsieur Th. Champion lists another batch of provisionals in his *Bulletin Mensuel* (25.3.09) and also sends us specimens of some of the same. He gives the following as the quantities so charged:

See list below.

No. 165	8000
,, 166	2000
,, 167	1500
,, 210 and 215	2200
,, 220	2800



39

Habilitado en

5

CENTAVOS

44

1909. Type 39 surcharged as Type 44, in black.
165|20 c. on 1 c., greenish blue.
166|20 c. on 2 c., carmine.
167|20 c. on 30 c., pale greenish blue.



16

Habilitado en

20

CENTAVOS

48

1909. Type 16 surcharged as Type 48, in black.
210|20 c. on 2 c., rose-red.
Variety. Surcharge inverted.
215|20 c. on 2 c., rose-red.

OFICIAL
162

1909. Type 16 overprinted with Type 162, and charged as Type 48, in black.
220|20 c. on 5 c., blue (No. 333).

ANSWER TO NEW ISSUE CORRESPONDENT

RUTH BENHAM.—Thanks for stamp, but had received previously.

MAY 1, 1909

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 18
Whole No. 226

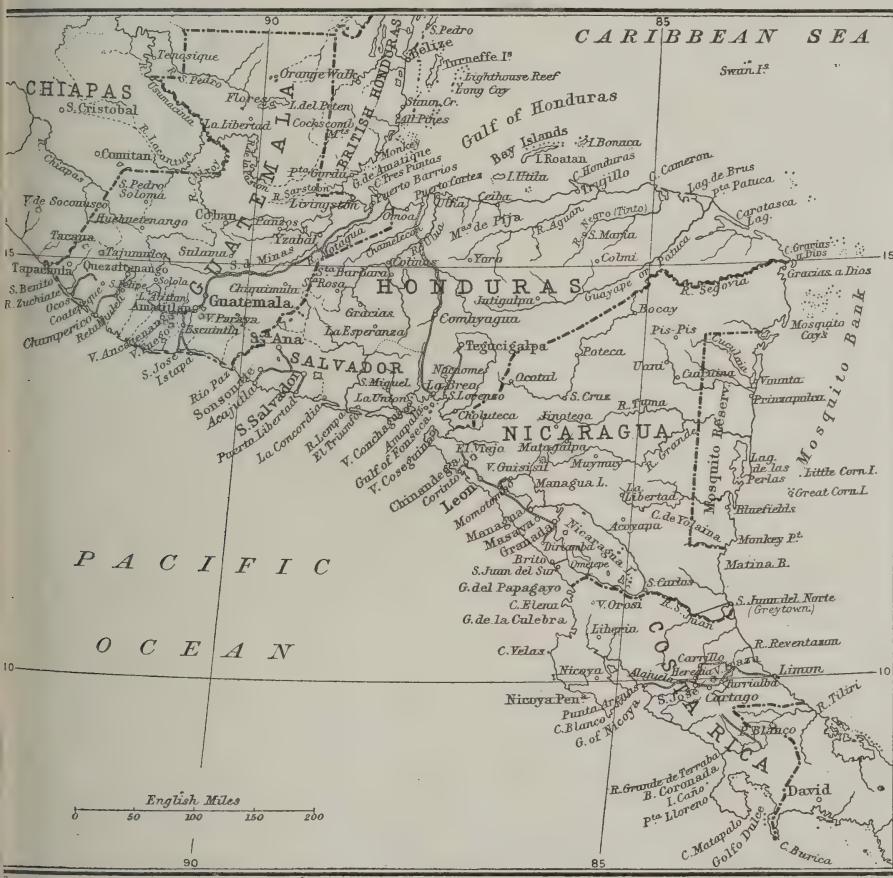
MAY 1, 1909

VOL. IX.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

Guatemala



GUATEMALA is much the largest and most populous of the five independent Republics of Central America. It is also the most northerly, bordering on Mexico, and extends from sea to sea, possessing a considerable coast-line on the Pacific. It is

divided into twenty-two Departments, with a total area of 48,290 square miles, and has a population estimated at about 2,000,000.

It is traversed W. to E. by an elevated mountain chain containing several volcanic summits, rising to 13,000 feet above sea-level.

Amongst other remarkable features is the "Water Volcano," so called from its discharging water during eruptions.

The country is well watered by numerous rivers, but the climate is hot and unhealthy except in the higher regions. Earthquakes are frequent.

The discovery of Guatemala is associated with the memorable expedition of Fernando Cortes, who from 1519 to 1521 penetrated into the country now known as Mexico, and overthrew the ancient empire of the Aztecs.

After this followed his astonishing march through North Guatemala (the name is a Spanish softening of the Indian "Quauhtemalan," meaning "Rotten tree") to Honduras, whilst his lieutenant, Pedro de Alvarado, at the head of a small band, overran the western parts of Guatemala.

In the two decades that followed the overthrow of the Aztec power, the restless Spanish pioneers surveyed the whole of the Atlantic and Pacific seaboards of Central America. All the provinces of the ancient empire, as well as the other civilized states, were reduced and grouped together into a single political system, which received the proud title of "New Spain."

This magnificent colonial empire, which must have had an area of over 2,000,000 square miles, lasted just three centuries, the War of Independence having been brought to a successful conclusion in 1821. Then the greater part of New Spain became Mexico.

During the Spanish regime the whole of the Isthmian region between Mexico and Panama was comprised in a single administrative division, viz. the "Captain Generalship of Guatemala," or, as it was more popularly called, the "Kingdom of Guatemala." This was under separate rule from the rest of New Spain, the administration being directly responsible to the Home Government.

To the Spanish succeeded a central provisional government, which in 1824 was constituted a Federal Republic, under the title of "Confederation of Central America," of the five States of Guatemala, Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica, i.e. the whole region except the colony of British Honduras acquired by England in 1797.

This arrangement lasted till 1838, when the partnership was dissolved, and since then the five federal States have formed five separate Republics.

Guatemala became finally independent in 1847, the Republic being established on March 21 of that year. The legislative power is vested in a National Assembly chosen by universal suffrage. The executive is vested in a President elected for six

years, the present holder of the office being Don Manuel Estrada Cabrera, re-elected in July, 1904, for the term 1905-11.

Of the people about 60 per cent are pure Indians, most of the remainder being half-caste, there being very few descendants of Europeans. Few of the aborigines can be tempted to take part in politics, hence the reason why all the attempted revolutions have failed since 1891. Internal dissensions and quarrels with neighbouring States have been very frequent, but of late the half-castes, responsible for both, are beginning to appreciate the blessings of a wise and liberal administration established by President Cabrera.

The official and prevailing language is Spanish. Roman Catholicism is the prevailing religion, but all other creeds have complete liberty of worship. Education is free and compulsory, and a fairly large army is maintained.

More than half the revenue (£578,653 in 1907) is from customs, and over one-third from taxes on spirits, tobacco, etc.; while seven-tenths of the expenditure (£730,495) is for public debt, instruction, and war. The money in use is chiefly paper, the currency dollar fluctuating in value, being worth now about \$70 to £1 sterling.

The imports (£1,463,314 in 1907, of which £318,175 came from the United Kingdom) consist chiefly of textiles, machinery, ironwork, and provisions. The exports (£2,034,897 in 1907, of which £214,294 came to the United Kingdom) consist practically of coffee, though hides, rubber, timber, and bananas are exported in fair quantities. Half the imports come from the United States, whilst Germany is the best customer for the coffee exported—indeed, most of the coffee plantations are under the control of German settlers.

Maize, sugar, indigo, cocoa, and tobacco are also cultivated. The banana industry is especially fostered by the Government. Cochineal at one time was the chief export, but the manufacture is now neglected.

The capital is *Guatemala la Nueva*, with about 100,000 inhabitants, five-sixths of them of European origin. The capital has shifted position more than once. *Iximché*, the chief Cachiquel settlement, was originally chosen by Alvarado in 1524 as the seat of government, but the latter was removed soon after to *Almolonga*, where was founded the first city of Guatemala. After a tremendous avalanche from the Water Volcano in 1541, which ruined the place, another shift was made to a safer position, where Alvarado founded a third capital in 1542. This was named the "New," but became *Guatemala Antigua*, the "Old," when destroyed by an earthquake in 1773. A final move was made to the present capital,

which stands on an elevated plateau, and is a handsome and well-arranged place. It is the largest city of Central America, and is connected by rail with *San José*, the chief port in the Pacific coast. Other ports are *Chamorro* and *Ocos* on the Pacific, and *Puerto Barrios* (connected by rail with the capital), and *Livingston* on the Atlantic side. The latter is named after an English jurist, who named the Guatemalan legal code, and gives promise of much expansion. It is the chief port for the banana trade.

Other important towns are *Quetzaltenango* (29,000), literally the "Green feather town," the chief centre of native manufactures, and *Totonicapan* (29,000), chiefly occupied by Indians who manufacture earthenware, woollen cloth, and wooden utensils.

The territory contains the remains of ancient cities similar to those in Mexico, which were flourishing at the time of the Spanish conquest, and are now overgrown with vegetation.

Besides the railways mentioned other lines are building, and soon will link up a general Central American system. There are a few good roads and many bridges have been recently built, but away from the railway most of the traffic is on muleback.

There are about 300 post offices, about 500 miles of telegraph lines, and a telephone system extending over about 320 miles.

The latest published statistics of postal traffic, viz. those for 1904, give the total number of letters, cards, parcels, etc., despatched and received as 8,494,226.

Philatelic History

Guatemala has always been a favourite country with the young collector, and few stamps are better known or more popular than the "parrots" of this Republic.

Though tainted somewhat with unnecessary issues, Guatemala has not been so great a sinner in this respect as some of the other Central and South American States. Its postal authorities were not participants in the Seebeck scheme, though the 1886 issue was a precursor of the system.

Provisionals figure largely in the lists, and fiscals have been pressed into postal service; but seeing that nearly all the stamps have been the work of the American Bank Note Co. or Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, they are mainly attractive. Another reason of this popularity amongst general collectors is the philatelic simplicity and cheapness of the stamps.

Guatemala was the last of the five Central American States to have postage stamps. In the latter part of 1866 it was announced that this country had decided to issue postage stamps, and that orders had been given to M. Hulot, the manufacturer of the French stamps, to prepare essays. Towards the end of 1867 M. Hulot furnished his samples, but it was not until 1870 that the Government decided upon a definite issue. This long delay suggested to some fertile brain a bogus stamp of attractive design (showing a ship and a rocky coast), which for some time had a vogue, but which now is seldom met with. The decree authorizing the first issue was dated December 27, 1871, and signed by President Vicente Cerna.

(To be continued.)

The Postage Stamps of Belgium—*contd.*

By CH. DE BONT

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(Continued from page 270.)

ISSUE OF 1893—*continued.*

The 1 centime stamp, issued September 1, 1893.

A S was stated in the Royal Decree of May 14, 1893, the designs of the 1, 2, and 5 centimes stamps comprise the arms of the kingdom, placed in an oval containing an inscription; in the two lower corners are tablets containing the figures of value.

The detachable label is really part and parcel of the stamp, as the frame of the latter is continued across the perforation round the label.

Of the three values which we shall now consider, the 1 centime stamp is of by far the greatest importance, by reason of the enormous quantity required for use; every year one or more printings took place. Thus from 1893 up to the present date there have been no less than twenty-eight printings, giving the enormous total of 1134 millions of stamps! Sometimes it happened that the only work done at the stamp office for several weeks was the printing of this one value!

It was possible to make an exact list in chronological order of the various shades by purchasing a sheet of these stamps from one of the chief post offices, say every four

months, the *millésime* printed at the bottom of each sheet indicating the correct order.

The stamps of the early printings are *light grey* or *blackish grey*; then followed *deep greenish grey*, *yellowish grey*, *pale grey*, and *deep grey*.

The paper is of medium thickness, and the impression is generally very good, but more especially in the *light grey* and *blackish grey* shades. These two shades have become quite rare, and are worth quite ten times as much as the commoner shades.

From 1900 onwards the impression became thicker and heavier, and the paper thinner; the shades were *light grey* and *deep grey*.

About the end of 1904 an even thinner paper was used; it was transparent, and showed vertically laid lines; the shades were *deep grey* and *pale grey*.

A printing which took place in August, 1905, was a bad failure; the impression is very defective, and some entire sheets were sold to the public, in which the inscriptions on the stamps are quite illegible. The shade is very pale, and it is supposed that the quality of the ink was very poor.

As is to be expected in the case of a stamp for which there was such a demand, there are a number of varieties or errors, due of course to the rapid using up of the surface of the plates or to the careless way in which the printing was done.

As for varieties in the impression we find:—

"BEIGIQUE," instead of "BELGIQUE,"
"POSTEPVEN" " " " POSTERIJEN,"
"ZONDAS" " " " ZONDAG."

The 2 centimes stamp, issued on August 1, 1893.

This stamp was not in nearly so great demand as the preceding value; the *yellow* variety was produced in a single printing, comprising 4,580,000 copies.

As yellow ink is rather unstable, the Administration decided to change the colour of the 2 centimes stamp. Paragraph four of the Ministerial Decree dated October 24, 1893, announced that the *yellow* colour would be replaced by *red-brown*.

The only shades are *pale yellow* and *bright yellow*, but there is not much difference between them.

A variety of this stamp is known on the watermarked paper used for the Railway stamps. It is difficult to explain how this could have occurred, as in Belgium the Administration of Railways is quite distinct from the Administration of Posts and Telegraphs, and each has its stamps made in its own separate printing works. Further, the

paper used for the Railway stamps is not supplied by the mill supplying the paper for the postage stamps. It is only since 1901 that similar paper has been used by both Administrations. It is manufactured by the Godin de Huy Mill, and is supplied through Messrs. De Ruyssche, of Brussels.

As regards varieties of impression, defects are known in the lettering of the words "POSTERIJEN," but they are quite unimportant.

The 5 centimes stamp, issued September 1, 1893.

Of these stamps there were no less than fifteen printings, comprising 118 million copies.

The stamp is interesting by reason of its *green* colour; the colouring matter contains both mineral and vegetable substances, which have a deleterious effect on one another causing decomposition of the ink.

The following shades are listed in the order in which they appeared:—

(i.) *Ordinary paper.*

Deep green, pale green, deep moss-green, yellow-green, blue-green, pale blue-green.

(ii.) *1905. Thin laid (or striped) paper.*

Pale and deep dull green.

The following varieties are known:—

- (i.) "POSTERIJEN," instead of "POSTERIJEN."
- (ii.) "ZONDAS" " " " ZONDAG."
- (iii.) Entirely defective impression.

Fancy prices are being asked for these varieties.

The 10 centimes stamp, issued June 1, 1893.

The orange-red 10 centimes stamp was produced by several printings each year until November, 1899, when the total number printed had reached 567 millions. Considering the enormous demand one would have supposed existed for this value, these figures seem remarkably small.

Before starting on this stamp it is true that the Administration had to use up existing stocks of the 1884-6 issue, of which supplies were sent out to the larger post offices, such as Brussels (Central), Ghent, Liège, and Antwerp (Central).

In spite of the numerous printings of this stamp, there are only three distinct shades, viz.:—

Orange-red, deep orange-red, pale orange-red.

The better-known varieties consist of defective impressions of the words "BELGIQUE—POSTES" and "POSTERIJEN," and a short "A" in the word "PAS" (in the label), making it read "PAS."

Forged Colonial Stamps

ON Friday, April 16, at Bow Street Police Court, before Mr. Curtis Bennett, John Stewart Lowden, 29, stamp dealer, Villiers Street, Strand, and Henry Harmer, 39, stamp dealer, Preston Road, Westcliff-on-Sea, were charged on remand with conspiring to obtain money by fraud from persons buying from them, or from the West End Stamp Company, or Herbert Mack and Co., Ltd., stamps purporting to be issued for postage and revenue purposes in British North Borneo.

Mr. Bodkin appeared on behalf of the Director of Public Prosecutions; Mr. H. H. Olley (for Mr. Harry Wilson) defended Lowden, and Harmer was represented by Mr. Frampton. Mr. C. V. Young watched the case on behalf of the Stamp Trade Protection Association.

Mr. BODKIN: In this case the prosecution has been undertaken by the Director of Public Prosecutions because the fraud which will be disclosed here is of an extensive character and involves a very dangerous and undesirable practice which has been adopted by the defendants of forging, and forging by most closely imitating valid postage and revenue stamps of a territory which is now part of the dominions of the King.

These two defendants are being charged to-day with defrauding persons to whom they sold forged and imitated stamps on the representation that they were genuine stamps. The fraud is not put here, at any event at this stage, as a fraud on the revenue of any country, but upon individuals in connection with stamps which formed the revenue of part of the King's dominions. It does not appear to be an offence, so far as I can discover, to forge stamps or to produce an imitation of the stamps of any other country than Great Britain.

The stamps with which I am at present dealing are stamps of the State of North Borneo, perhaps better known as British North Borneo. That was one of the countries which was originally made over to the administration of a Chartered Company, which had by its charter very ample powers, including the powers of trading in North Borneo and of generally administering all the affairs of the district. That Company was incorporated on November 1, 1881, and it remained in that original state and had the sole responsibility for the administration of the country until 1888, when the Company's territory was made into a British Protectorate, under the general control of the Colonial Office, under the name of the State of North Borneo.

In the course of its administration some

years after the Company was first chartered, it became necessary to provide stamps for postal and revenue purposes for the use of the country. Accordingly the Company instructed a well-known firm in the city of London, Messrs. Blades, East, and Blades, to design and prepare a series of revenue and postage stamps ranging from $\frac{1}{2}$ up to 10 cents. Accordingly Mr. Macdonald, an engraver who was acting for Messrs. Blades, designed and prepared the necessary dies to produce each of the series of stamps, and the stamps which were so prepared are known as the 1887 to 1890 issue, and they were printed from time to time as required up to 1894.

In 1893 the Company instructed Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, Ltd., to design and produce a new series of stamps of the same values, and this was done, and as from the year 1894 the new series of stamps has been those which are generally in use, although from the time of the preparation of the first issue of the 1887 issue those stamps have remained valid and effective as postage and revenue stamps right up to December 14, 1908; so that between 1886-7 and December 14, 1908, there have been the 1887 to 1890 issue, and from 1894 to 1908 the new issue also. Since December 14, 1908, only the 1894 stamps have been valid and effective, because from information which came to the Company in the middle of December of last year of very extensive quantities of forgeries of the 1887 to 1890 issue, they were obliged to demonetize the whole of the early issue of 1887 to 1890 and to cancel them; so that only the 1894 issue is now available for postage and revenue purposes. The stamps have not only their value for their ordinary purposes of postage and revenue, but the business of trading in foreign stamps and the habit of collecting foreign postage stamps is very extensive, and these stamps are articles of commerce quite apart from their ordinary use. These two defendants, being dealers in foreign postage stamps, it is alleged by the prosecution, have caused to be forged many thousands of these stamps for the purpose of selling them to collectors and others at remunerative rates to form part of collections of foreign stamps.

It is necessary just to say here that the North Borneo Company have never ordered or procured or authorized any reprint of any of the 1887 to 1890 issue, the dies for producing those stamps having been in the custody of the printers, Messrs. Blades, who are under a liability to account strictly to the Company for every sheet of any paper

on which any impression of any one of these stamps appears, because in the process of printing there may be spoiled sheets, or sheets which for some reason or other may be imperfectly printed. You will have the clearest evidence before you to show that, except on the express order of the Company, no reprints of these stamps have ever been sold by the Company or printed by Messrs. Blades.

The North Borneo Company has no knowledge, as I shall show by the evidence of Mr. Forbes, the Secretary of the Company, of these defendants in any shape or way. The Company had no arrangements with them by which the defendants should purchase stamps of the Company, and so far as the Company are concerned, the first they heard of the defendants was when these matters were discovered at the end of last year. But a Mr. Parker, a gentleman who deals in stamps in London, has been in the habit of buying for the purpose of dealing with other dealers and collectors in stamps from the North Borneo Company, and has purchased from time to time quantities of stamps from the Company. You will hear that in the autumn of 1907 Mr. Parker held a very large stock of North Borneo stamps of all kinds and values, including some of the 1887 to 1890 issue. He seems to have made a kind of speciality in dealing with these North Borneo stamps. Amongst the stamps he held were some sheets which he had obtained from the Company of the 1887 to 1890 issue, but which were not perfect and complete stamps; they were not perforated, and I understand they were sheets which had been handed over by the printers to the Company.

I claim no special knowledge upon the subject of foreign stamps, except that sometimes I have had to pay for other people's, but for all I know it may be very interesting for a stamp collector to be in possession of stamps which are not complete. At any rate, this Mr. Parker was well acquainted with Harmer, whom he had known as a stamp dealer for some seven or eight years, and also with Lowden, whom he had known for four or five years as a stamp dealer and as an acquaintance of Harmer's.

Leaving the position there for the moment—with Parker having a large stock of these Borneo stamps in his possession and being acquainted with the two defendants—I will now proceed to tell you how the defendants were trading, so far as we know at present, at that time. It seems from inquiry at Somerset House that in January, 1906, a Company, called the West End Stamp Company, was registered with the defendant Lowden as one of the signatories, and the Company had its offices at 20 Villiers Street, Strand. One finds from the file in May,

1906, its capital, which was originally £500, was increased to £5000, and there was an agreement made between the defendant Lowden and Harmer and the Company by which certain stocks of stamps were to be made over to the Company and certain shares of the Company made over to them. It further appears that these two defendants were the managing directors of this Company, and entitled as such to a salary of £150 a year each, and they were appointed the joint managing directors. That Company existed from 1906 up to, so far as we can gather, almost the present time.

Now there was another Company, which was formed somewhat after the West End Stamp Company. That seems to have been the outcome of a business of Mr. Herbert Mack, which it would seem was carried on at any rate so far as the postal address was concerned, at 153 Cheapside and afterwards at 20 Villiers Street, Strand. The Company, Herbert Mack and Co., was formed in May, 1908, with the registered offices at 20 Villiers Street, Strand. These two Companies, with which it will be shown both the defendants were intimately connected, were in existence at Villiers Street, Strand, and Mr. Parker in the autumn of 1907 made an arrangement with the defendants *qua* the West End Stamp Company, Limited, by which he was to sell them the whole of his accumulated stock of North Borneo stamps, including those which he had had from the Company of the 1887 to 1890 issue. The defendants were to take these stamps at the rate of £200 worth a month, omitting August and September, which are what are called the slack months. Therefore £2000 worth of stamps were to be taken per year. The agreement which carried out that arrangement was signed by both the defendants, and from the time of its commencement, probably about October, 1907, up to January or February of this year, deliveries of stamps were made month by month and were paid for by the West End Stamp Company.

The West End Stamp Company is described by Lowden as the largest firm of wholesale foreign stamp dealers in England, and there can be no doubt, from the number of lady clerks employed at the offices, that it did have a very considerable business indeed, and especially a considerable business in these Borneo stamps. So far as the inquiries up to the present have gone it will be proved that in February, 1908, forged North Borneo stamps were being dealt in by the defendants, for a Mr. Wallace, a stamp dealer, sold to the West End Stamp Company certain genuine North Borneo stamps in February, 1908. The value was not paid by the Company, but the stamps seem to have been held by the Company. The dealings were with Mr. Harmer, and

after some little time Mr. Wallace called one day in the summer-time of last year on Harmer and asked for the stamps which he had sold him earlier in the year. Harmer said that they had plenty of North Borneo stamps and did not want those of Mr. Wallace. Mr. Wallace seems to have asked for some compensation for having been kept out of the stamps for so long, and Harmer gave him 175 sets of North Borneo stamps which purported to be of the 1887 to 1890 issue, and Mr. Wallace was in possession of eighteen sheets of these stamps when Chief Inspector Stockley made some inquiries of him.

The next date is April, 1908, when in consequence of a letter signed by Harmer of the West End Stamp Company, a Mr. Brown, a stamp dealer of Salisbury, bought some 2000 sets of North Borneo stamps from the West End Stamp Company and he paid £8 6s. 8d. for them either in cash or in other stamps. These stamps having been bought by Mr. Brown were sold by him naturally as fast as he could, and amongst others he sold some to a dealer in Brussels. The dealer in Brussels noticed what Mr. Brown did not notice, that apparently these were not genuine stamps, and he returned them to Mr. Brown, who at once communicated in October of last year with the West End Stamp Company. The letter of Mr. Brown is dated 17th October, 1908, and is as follows: "I regret I have to return you 1000 sets of Borneo 1887-1890, for which please credit me £4 3s. 4d. These have been returned to me from the Continent as forgeries. I have looked into them very carefully and compared them with some undoubtedly genuine specimens and have come to the conclusion that they are forgeries and very dangerous ones."

The next day there came a letter signed J. H. Lowden, from the West End Stamp Company, as follows: "We have your letter and we are perfectly satisfied as to the genuineness of the stamps, but as you raise a doubt on the matter we will take them back and credit you with the amount. Probably you are not aware that there were several reprints of this issue."

That letter Mr. Brown looked upon as quite satisfactory, but in the light of what we now know I would call your attention to the words "we are perfectly satisfied as to the genuineness of the stamps. Probably you are not aware that there were several reprints of this issue." Mr. Brown accordingly was credited with half of the £8 6s. 8d. which he had paid for the 2000 sets and he retained 1000 sets. Mr. Brown also wrote to Harmer, who, at that time, it appears, had ceased to be actively connected with the West End Stamp Company at Villiers Street, and had, in fact, circularized a number of people in October, 1908, saying that through

ill-health he was retiring from the directorship of the West End Stamp Company. His condition of health, however, still permitted him to trade as a foreign stamp dealer at 11 Preston Road, Southend-on-Sea. Mr. Brown wrote to Harmer at that address contemporaneously with the letter to Lowden, and Harmer replied as follows: "Yours of the 18th to hand. The Borneos are undoubtedly right. They exist in a number of sheets and large quantities must have been printed and therefore one finds minor differences. You had better send them back to 20 Villiers Street if you are anxious about them." So much for the direct dealing between Mr. Brown and the West End Stamp Company.

I now come to what I might call the indirect dealing. Mr. Acland, of Brighton, a stamp dealer, who had known Lowden for some time, was visited by Lowden in May, 1908, and Lowden brought with him a number of the sets of these North Borneo stamps of the 1887 to 1890 issue, and Mr. Acland bought 2180 sets for £11 12s. 6d. In September, 1908, Mr. Acland bought some 1400 more sets, and in the early part of October about 10,000 sets, paying something like £60 for them. He sold some of these to Mr. Brown, of Salisbury. After Mr. Brown had received the complaint from Brussels he communicated with Mr. Acland, and Mr. Acland behaved in a perfectly proper way and made an allowance to Mr. Brown against these stamps. But Mr. Acland came to London and visited Lowden in reference to them. Lowden said: "I think they are all right; some might be reprints or even printer's waste. They might be all reprints for all I know. I got them from the North Borneo Company." This was an absolute falsehood. It would be seen, therefore, in February and April, right up to October, there were sales of North Borneo 1887 to 1890 issue.

In the first week of February of this year a Mr. Burgess wrote to Herbert Mack and Co., Limited, a Company which seems to have advertised itself extensively by means of a *Stamp Review* which was issued monthly in English and German. Mr. Burgess wrote and received some stamps from Messrs. Mack and Co., and paid £3 for them, and had an acknowledgment in February, 1909, for the money. The next date of any importance is February 19, 1908, when owing to a complaint of a burglary at 20 Villiers Street, Chief Inspector Stockley visited Lowden and saw him at the office of Mack and Co. Lowden said that he was the proprietor of the whole of the offices, and said that some £160 worth of stamps had been stolen. He also said that he had an option with the North Borneo Company, and was under contract with them to purchase £200 worth of stamps a month.

In December of last year the North Borneo Company got some information, and in consequence they communicated with the French police, and on December 23, 1908, the French police visited the premises of Mr. René Carême, of Paris, a gentleman who seems to be a somewhat skilful, although perhaps not skilful enough, engraver, but who is well able to engrave dies which will reproduce postage stamps. On the premises of Mr. Carême the police found a very large quantity of North Borneo stamps in the making. They were not quite in a finished condition. They found a number of lithographic stones bearing on them an inverted picture of stamps of various sorts of the 1887 to 1890 issue, which being one of the oldest is a most valuable issue to collectors for collecting purposes. They found perforating apparatus, and, what is more important, they found a large amount of correspondence from Messrs. H. Mack and Co., Limited, and in that correspondence there appeared from time to time the names of Harmer and Lowden. The correspondence gave in the most minute particulars directions as to the colour of the stamps, the exactitude of the perforation marks, the quality, thickness, and character of the paper, a description of the gum which was to be put on the back of the paper, and, in short, the most minute directions which you can conceive for the production of a most absolute imitation of the genuine 1887 to 1890 North Borneo stamp issue.

It is clear from the documents which were found that large sums of money were paid over in the name of Mack and Co. to Mr. Carême for the work he was doing, totalling up, so far as one can discover from the correspondence, to something like £150. Amongst the documents so found is an account of a number of sheets of stamps which had been delivered by Mr. Carême to Messrs. Mack from February, 1908, to December, 1908, these being just the dates within which the sales of these stamps were taking place in England.

We are in possession at the present moment of accounts found in the papers of Mr. Carême showing the delivery of many thousands of sheets of completely printed imitations of the genuine stamps. Further, the French police went on from the premises of Mr. Carême to the premises of a practical printer, and there they found nine lithographic stones—each stone devoted to the particular value of the particular issue of 1887 to 1890 North Borneo stamps. These stones only require to be run backwards and forwards for an unlimited number of these forged stamps to be reproduced.

There also was found a most ingenious instrument, which was a rubber stamp for printing bars on the stamps, and you will

have specimens before you. I should explain that there are fifty or sixty stamps to each sheet, and as the stamps are arranged in rows one dab of this little india-rubber stamp would make the marks of bars upon four stamps, so that you will find excellent forged marks purporting to be a cancellation of the stamps. It will be shown by evidence that they are exact imitations of the methods of cancelling the genuine stamps.

There is also to be referred to a curious document which would seem to have been drawn up for the purpose of shielding Mr. Carême as far as possible in France. Mr. Carême is under the supervision of the police, but what proceedings will be taken with regard to him I do not know. It is quite clear that there having been found in his possession this quantity of fraudulently manufactured stamps, he was in a very awkward position so far as the French authorities were concerned. There is no doubt he must have communicated with Lowden after the searching of his premises which took place on December 23. On December 31 Lowden caused to be prepared and signed before a public notary in London a statutory declaration for the purpose apparently of relieving Mr. Carême from the anxieties in which this search by the police had placed him. It is a statutory declaration which is full of untruths from beginning to end, and it is duly signed by Lowden. The document states that the West End Stamp Company, which is the largest firm of wholesale foreign stamp dealers in England, had purchased from the North Borneo Company the whole of their stock of stamps from Borneo of the issues from 1887 to the present time, and that the sum paid for that privilege amounted to something like £13,000. The whole of the stamps were engraved and sold by the North Borneo Company solely for stamp collectors, and were not intended, and it is not possible to use them, for postal purposes. That is absolutely untrue. The document went on to say that the British North Borneo Company had sold to the West End Stamp Company the right to buy and sell all re'impressions that they in their discretion may deem advisable, and that the West End Stamp Company had also purchased all printers' trials, proofs, essays, and impressions, with the right to sell the same as genuine postage stamps. That the re'impression of certain of the stamps made by Mr. Carême were sold and bought from here as re'impressions, and were resold by the purchasers as such, and that to Lowden's knowledge they were never represented or sold as being genuine articles. Just pausing here for one moment there is a letter, dated May 23, 1908, which is sent by Messrs. Mack and Co., complaining of the perforation of the sheets by

Carême. It said: "We found a large number of the make are badly perforated. We also found the sheets of 8 cents and 10 cents are a little too small, and possibly will have to be reprinted. The colour also is not always right, and many people would say at once they are reprints." You have to compare that with the paragraph that they were never represented or sold as genuine originals. What effect this document had upon the unsentimental minds of the French police I do not know, but it was declared and sent out to them probably for the purpose which I have mentioned. Then came some further inquiries and the arrest of the two defendants, and in their possession was found a vast number of these forged North Borneo stamps, and coming into the Villiers Street office, according to a well-arranged system by every post, were large numbers of what are called approval sheets bearing the name of H. Mack and Co. In every sheet there is a series of these North Borneo stamps, the 4 cent one being priced at 8d., the 2 cents at 4d., and the 1 cent at 3d., and there are other prices. It is quite clear that in the very extensive business of the West End Stamp Company the sheets containing these forgeries have been circulated far and wide over the country, and doubtless many of these stamps have been sold to people who believed them to be genuine stamps of the Company. The inquiry has been limited at present to the North Borneo stamps, but there are references in the correspondence to other countries which may make it necessary to somewhat enlarge the scope of the inquiry. There are references to the Transvaal, to British East Africa, as well as to a large number of foreign countries, and minute directions as to those as to how they are to be imitated or reproduced so as to imitate the original. Mr. Bodkin concluded by explaining to the magistrate how, for the convenience of the case, photographs had been taken and enlarged of the genuine and the forged stamps, so that differences which were not noticeable when the stamps were examined could be noted in the enlargement. Mr. Macdonald, the engraver of the original dies, had also examined the forgeries, and would be able to show that, expert as Mr. Carême was, he had not been able to exactly reproduce the originals.

Mr. W. ALEXANDER STEWART, clerk in the office of the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies, Somerset House, in answer to Mr. Bodkin, said he produced the file of the West End Stamp Company, Limited. The Company was registered on January 22, 1906, and amongst the first subscribers was John Stewart Lowden, of 15 Curzon Road, Weybridge, stamp dealer. The office of the Company was 20 Villiers Street, Strand,

and the capital was £500. It was increased in May, 1906, to £5000. In March, 1907, £1000 debentures were registered. He found from the list of shareholders that Lowden on May 4, 1908, held 510 shares. Harmer, whose address was 11 Preston Road, Southend-on-Sea, held 2998 shares. An agreement was filed on May 2, 1906, between the Company and Lowden and Harmer. The first directors of the Company were returned on May 12, 1906, as being J. S. Lowden, Laura Ethel Lowden, and H. R. Harmer. In the next return the name of Laura Ethel Lowden dropped out. There was a resolution passed on June 21, 1906, and confirmed on July 9 of the same year, cancelling one of the original articles and substituting another, and by which Lowden and Harmer were appointed joint managing directors. He did not know to whom the debentures were issued, as that information was not required to be given. He also produced the file of another Company—Herbert Mack and Co., Limited—which was registered on May 20, 1908, with a capital of £100. There had been no return made of the shareholders in that Company. The offices were 20 Villiers Street, and one of the objects given in the articles was the carrying on of the business of dealers in British, foreign, and colonial stamps.

In answer to Mr. Frampton, witness said that Harmer was not one of the original signatories of the West End Stamp Company, but he appeared as a director in the first list they had. It appeared from the agreement that Harmer sold his business to the Company and received £2000 in shares of the West End Stamp Company as consideration.

Would it appear on the file the date on which he resigned his connection with the Company? I have it that it was September, 1908?—We have not had a return from the Company since May 4, 1908. If he resigned his position as director we should have notice of it, but we have not had it. It should have been given by the Company.

The evidence of Chief Inspector Stockley as to the arrest of the defendants which he gave at the first sitting was read over.

In answer to Mr. Bodkin witness said that he seized a large quantity of stamps but not much correspondence at Harmer's place, and he had not yet had time to go through it and arrange it properly.

Answering Mr. Olley, witness said he knew that Lowden had done an extensive business for some years. He did not know he had a house at Brighton on a seven years' lease.

Mr. HARRINGTON GORDON FORBES said he was secretary for the British North

Borneo Company, of 37 Threadneedle Street, E.C. He had been in the service of the Company for twenty-eight years and had been secretary for fifteen years. The Company was incorporated by Royal Charter on November 1, 1881, for the purpose of acquiring sovereign and territorial rights over a portion of the land of Borneo. The Company was permitted by its charter to trade itself and it did so. On May 12, 1888, the territory under the Company's jurisdiction became British territory under the name of the State of North Borneo. As the governing body who administered the territory, the Company had from time to time issued stamps for postage and revenue purposes. The first issue was in 1883. In 1887 the Company instructed Messrs. Blades, East, and Blades to design a further issue, and this was done, and the values of the stamps were $\frac{1}{2}$ cent, 1 cent, 2 cents, 4 cents, 8 cents, and 10 cents. Afterwards 3 cents and 5 cents were added, and later still, about 1892, 6 cents. Five cents would represent a trifle over 1d. of English money. Messrs. Blades did the necessary engraving and printing, and the printing stones were kept at the printers'. He believed the dies were kept at the Company's office. The stamps were produced in sheets and perforated, and were sent out to Borneo by the Company for the ordinary postage and revenue purposes. The sale of the stamps formed part of the revenue of the Government. In December of last year the Company gave instructions to the Governor to demonetize the stamps of the 1887 to 1890 issue. In 1893 the Company instructed Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, Limited, to prepare a new issue of stamps of a different design, and these stamps ran up from 1 cent to 10 cents and higher. This issue came into circulation on January 1, 1894, so that up to the time when they ordered the 1887-90 issue to be demonetized both issues were available. Stamps which came to the Company's offices from Borneo on ordinary letters were not sold, but were generally given to people who wanted a few specimens. From time to time quantities of stamps which had been printed were sold to stamp dealers. These were new stamps and were sold in sheets, but they were cancelled by being stamped with a rubber stamp. The latter stamps were not sold at their face value or anything like it. It was a question of arrangement and of quantity. Mr. Parker was a gentleman they had supplied in this way.

Have you any definite arrangement with him, or was it merely a matter that he used to buy largely?—No; he had no option or contract, but we used to deal more constantly with him than anybody else.

Since the new series from Messrs. Water-

low and Sons came in have you had any of the 1887 to 1890 issue reprinted?—No, certainly not.

When did you first learn that there were such persons as Lowden and Harmer?—Some time in December of last year.

Has there ever been any arrangement of any sort or kind between the Company and them as to stamps?—To the best of my knowledge, none whatever.

You have read the statutory declaration, and I will not take you through all the statements, but you have seen the statement that the West End Stamp Company have the right to sell stamps, to purchase printers' proofs, essays, and so on?—Yes.

And your previous answer covers everything?—Yes.

The North Borneo Company have never had any dealings with the West End Stamp Company?—None.

Or with Herbert Mack and Co., Limited?—To the best of my knowledge, no.

Or with H. Mack and Co. without the Limited?—No.

Do you know to whom Parker was disposing of the stamps?—No.

So long as you received your due quota it did not matter?—No.

Continuing, witness said that in December, 1908, certain information came to the knowledge of his Company in consequence of which they sent instructions to the Governor of North Borneo to demonetize the issues prior to 1894. They had no knowledge of the matter before the case of René Carême came up. He had handed over to Chief Inspector Stockley a set of genuine unissued stamps.

Was Mr. Parker in any sense an agent of your Company?—No; absolutely independent. He was in no sense an agent.

The magistrate adjourned the further hearing of the case till May 1.

Mr. OLLEY asked that the bail of Lowden might be altered, so as to allow of two sureties of £500 instead of one of £1000.

The magistrate said he would consider the matter at the next hearing.

Bail was forthcoming for Harmer.

Mr. FRAMPTON asked that all letters and stamps not essential to the case should be given up to his client. It was essential that he should continue his business, which he could not do unless his correspondence and stock were given back.

Mr. BODKIN said that Chief Inspector Stockley would get through the correspondence as quickly as possible, and anything which had nothing to do with the case would be given back.

The Parcel Post Hospital

Reproduced by permission from "St. Martin's-le-Grand" * (April, 1909)

UNTIL an enterprising reporter of the *Yorkshire Post* first revealed its existence, the general public were unaware that in the Post Office the Leeds General Infirmary had a rival. Both are devoted to the care of the injured, the mending of the broken; both are supported by public contributions, voluntary in the one case, involuntary in the other, and while both have a high percentage of successful operations, both alike are occasionally the resort of the hopelessly injured and the irrecoverably fractured. The difference lies in this, that while the General Infirmary alleviates the suffering of injured mankind, the Parcel Post Hospital finds its work in dealing with the damaged parcels which, during the Christmas season, flow in large numbers into its wards.

And first, to anticipate the inevitable charge of carelessness against a great public department, let it be said that inasmuch as a broken parcel involves infinitely more trouble to all whose misfortune it is to deal with it than a hundred undamaged ones, the greatest care is taken to avoid rough handling. But the fault lies elsewhere than in the Service. Here is an actual example, a recent case from our hospital ward. Outwardly, a flimsy hat box, with the lid secured by tape. From it flows a thick and viscid stream of egg-yolk and albumen. Opened, it reveals a silk topper, inside which is packed a damp goose, the interstices between the goose and the lining of the hat being packed with . . . EGGS!! It has travelled by coach and steamer and rail via Holyhead and Crewe to Leeds. The appalling mess may be left to the imagination.

Here again is a parcel from a village not remote from Aberdeen, or rather here is what is left of it, collected, by the careful basket-opener, from the Aberdeen parcel basket. Sherlock Holmes in his most inspired moments might say what it had been, as Cuvier could describe the structure of some prehistoric beast by careful synthesis from a toe-joint and a rib. These crumbs were indubitably oatcake, these chunks of material were once haggis, and surely the smell is the smell of "Mountain Dew." These fragments of glass indicate a sometime whisky bottle, and there are also scraps of tissue paper, an address label and some cotton. Alas, that the kind intentions of Sandy McAlister for the comfort of a brother Scot exiled from his romantic fatherland to

prosaic money-making in the fogs of Leeds should come to this sad issue for the want of a little thought and a ha'porth of packing.

But John Bull is not to be outdone by either Sandy or Pat. He can give points and a beating to both. What is this mysterious package of unimagined shape, which, in its melancholy progress to the operating table, drips mournfully down the trousers of the temporary ambulance man, and leaves a sinuous trail upon the dusty floor? None can say till the knife of the operator reveals its dreadful secret. Stripping away the soaked linen in which it is wrapped, first comes to our astonished gaze a brass kettle, and to our wondering senses a new and pungent odour. Rolling in dire confusion in the kettle's dark interior are fifty cigars, washing to and fro in an inch and a half of liquid, from which protrude broken glass and the dislocated tops of two bottles. One, smelling strongly of brandy, bears a tag "For Jim," and the other, of more fragile make and with a glass stopper, is inscribed in a woman's hand "For dear Polly." It had been "eau de Cologne." Let not the astonished reader charge me with unveracity. These eyes have seen it, yea, down to the uttermost fragment of brandy-and-scent-soaked cigar!

But I will not further harrow your minds with these sorrowful scenes. Enough is as good as a feast. Let us, swiftly and with not-too-curious eye, survey the hospital. To its noble uses is devoted a well-lighted recess contiguous to, but just out of, the main press of traffic in the large hall known as the Parcel Post Sorting-Office. A parquet floor, carbolic-sprinkled, supports a long table with a lead-lined top. Here, during the four days and nights that constitute the "pressure period," stands a skilful operator, an uncertified surgeon. Around and about him are the tools of his profession. Rolls of Willesden—or waterproof—paper, packages of brown paper of various thicknesses, sawdust, balls of string, sticks of sealing-wax, knives and scissors complete his outfit, save for the various official forms which record each "case."

At first he finds himself able to keep abreast of the work, and case follows case with marvellous celerity, considering the complicated fractures with which he has at intervals to deal. Now, perhaps, it is but a label which requires to be firmly tied, or loose wrapping secured, or a stray goose or a couple of rabbits to be attached to their address-labels. But as the pressure increases, the flow of "cases" more serious than these

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gets beyond him, and he cannot keep pace with the crowd of miscellaneous articles that require his services. These, piled on, around, and below the operating table, form a heart-shaking sight. Here are geese without address-labels, and address-labels without geese, and if an unthinking public, careless whether Bill gets Tom's goose, or Harry receives George's duck, would suggest that the operator should, in default of definite information, attach the labels to the articles as best he may, they would be non-plussed when they found that for the sixty-one loose address-labels which confront him he has :—

10 geese.	1 toy locomotive.
9 ducks.	3 jars of jam.
6 rabbits.	1 plum cake.
4 dolls.	1 plum pudding.
6 boxes of cigars.	1 wheelbarrow.
1 tin trumpet.	1 seed cake.
1 ostrich feather.	1 bottle of gin.
2 powder puffs.	2 bottles of whisky.

Total = 50.

Sixty-one into fifty won't go, and imagination reels at the thought of what might happen in erstwhile peaceful homes if Uncle Podger received from his dutiful nephew a penny trumpet, Aunt Maria a toy locomotive, and little Willie a box of cigars. So with wisdom born of departmental rule and practice, the operator consigns to the Dead Letter Office such unaddressed articles as he cannot assign with certainty to their

rightful labels, and forwards the labels, with a short statement of the circumstances of their finding, to the addressees, who ultimately, after inquiry, frequently recover their belongings, with mutual satisfaction to themselves and the Department.

At about 4 o'clock on Christmas morning the crisis is reached, and it would demand the pen of a Dante or a Thomson (B.V.) to depict the scene. Toys of all kinds, bottles of various shapes, sizes, and contents, with no contents at all, jars of jam and pickles, sausages, rabbits, hares, turkeys, geese, cigars, scores of address-labels, Christmas cards, scraps of cakes, etc. etc., all welter in seemingly hopeless confusion, an indescribable chaos. As the man goes, and the staff are to some degree set at liberty, ten additional operators are hurried to the ward. Two hours' hard work clear all away, and the dim dawn of Christmas Day peeps reluctantly and timidly through the lofty windows, as the tired workers weary and spent, for whom no friendly tramcar is provided, crawl slowly home to bed.

And all this might be avoided if the public would only pack their parcels. In packing as in painting, the great essential is "brains." A little thought is worth a mile of string or a desert of brown paper, and a trifle of sawdust prevents angry letters of complaint to an innocent, a long-suffering, and a sore-tried Department.

BELL SMITH.
Leeds.

Indian Stamps, etc., Used Abroad

By W. N. WYETH

REFERRING to Mr. Ward's article in *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*, Vol. VIII, No. 185, entitled "The Land of the Lion and Sun," I wish to say that Indian stamps are not officially used from Teheran, Isphahan, and Kerman. I have a letter from the Assistant Director-General of the Post Office at Calcutta, who advises me of this fact, but it may be of interest to those who collect this class of stamps to know that he advises me that the regular post offices outside of British India using Indian stamps are as follows :—

Name of Post Office.	Countries in which they are situated.
ADEN	Arabia
MUSCAT	"
BAGDAD	Turkish Arabia
BASRA or BUSSRAH	"
BAHREIN	On all islands on the Arabian coast
BENDAR ABAS	Persia
BUSHIRE	"
JASK	"
GUADUR	"
LINGA	"
MOHAMMERAH	Chistan.
PASUI	Mekran coast of Balu-

Indian stamps were also used in Singapore before the first surcharges. The cancellation was "B" over "172," enclosed within a four-lined octagon, the same as found on the first surcharged Indian and first regular issues for Straits Settlements. Also at Zanzibar and Somali Coast Indian stamps without surcharge were used. I would not be surprised to find the first issues used in Ceylon. They were, no doubt, used in Bangkok and Penang, but as I have not yet found any, I do not know what the cancellations were. Probably some reader can enlighten us.

While on this subject, it may be of interest to know that Egypt had offices in the Turkish Empire at Constantinople, Beyrouth, Dardanelles, Gallipoli, Chio, Metelen, Rhodes and Smyrna, Salonika.

I have them from the following places. The cancellation is a circle with name and date. The names read: "Constantinople," "Smirne," "Bairout," "Salonicopolis," "Metelino."

Italian stamps were used abroad before surcharged "Estero." I have them from :—

Alexandria, Egypt; cancellation circle, name, and date, also "234" in a rectangle formed of diamond-shaped dots. Tunis: circle cancellation only so far as I know. Tripoli, Barbary Coast: circle, name, and date, and also "305" enclosed in a circle formed of bars. I would like to know the other number cancellations, and where used. I believe they were used at South American ports, but have not yet found any, as I do not know the cancellations. The United States has a regular post office in Shanghai, China, at the present time, but the stamps must be on a piece of cover to distinguish them, as they have no distinguishing obliteration excepting in the case of registered mail, when

a large oval enclosing name is used. This also applies to Yokohama, Japan, but United States stamps have not been in use there for a number of years. The same at St. Thomas, Danish West Indies. Italian stamps cancelled "A 25" (Malta cancellation) were used from Tripoli, Barbary, and cancelled in Malta *en route*. There is, no doubt, a great deal to be learned about stamps of countries used abroad, and if this subject were taken up actively and lists published by those who have such information, no doubt many of our duplicates would find their proper places in our collections. Their value is large, because one can look over thousands of stamps and not find them.

Foreign Notes

By FRANK PHILLIPS

The Postal Strike in Paris

THIS strike developed so suddenly that it became an important factor in the daily round of business. To Parisians it seemed as though they were again besieged, and that it was only with difficulty that communication with the outside world was obtained.

Although the Administration was aided by soldiers, it was found an impossibility to carry on the official service of posts, so that many private persons and some commercial institutions had recourse to all manner of means for carrying on a special postal service.

Some merchants joined forces, and forwarded their letters by special courier to be posted in London or in Brussels. There was quite a run on the stocks of current English and Belgian stamps held by many Parisian dealers.

Several Chambers of Commerce undertook openly to deliver letters to London and Belgium, in spite of the law of Post Office monopoly. In Paris the following circular was sent to nearly all large business firms:—

"PROVISIONAL POSTAL SERVICE."

"During the strike an employé will leave the Gare du Nord every evening at 7.20 for Brussels, and he will take charge of any letters or telegrams for abroad.

"Letters may be handed in at the offices of the Chambre Syndicale up to 6.15 p.m.

"In addition to the regular rates payable from Belgium, an additional 25 c. per letter will be charged.

"This service will be maintained by confidential agents, but the Committee will accept no responsibility.

"Special couriers will be despatched to the French ports should it be necessary.

"Letters from abroad intended for Paris may be addressed to Brussels; the address should

consist of the name of a person or of a firm, followed by the words 'de Paris,' and also by the word 'Export,' and lastly 'Hotel de la Poste-Bruxelles.'

"The special courier will leave Brussels the following day at 12.59 p.m., and will arrive at 62 Faubourg Poissonnière, Paris, about 5.35 p.m.

"A fee of 25 c. will be charged on each letter carried.

"The special courier will despatch from Brussels telegrams to all parts, for which service a fee of 50 c. (including receipt) will be charged.

"The first courier will leave on March 20, 1909, provided that the official service be not restored."

The Parisian Chamber of Commerce also organized a postal service, an office being established in the Place de la Bourse. The service was only working for two days, on March 22 and 23, and appears to have borne a semi-official character, as Post Office clerks were in charge.

Letters had to be stamped according to the ordinary tariff, and were obliterated by means of the old handstamp "Paris—Depart," which was lent by the head post office.

Many were the different cancellations used on letters sent by private persons, as everybody took the precaution of paying the postal dues so as not to come into conflict with the monopoly law, even though the letters never passed through a post office. Thus one can find cancellations consisting of the stamps of many of the Parisian stockbrokers and bankers, and also of some business firms in Lyons and Marseilles.

Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste.

More about Cayman Islands

So it seems that the Grand Cayman Post Office is now being run by a canny Scot, if he will pardon my calling him so. Some time

ago information was printed in *G.S.W.* to the effect that Miss Parsons, a postmistress who was courtesy itself (or herself) to her many correspondents, had been superseded by a Mr. W. Graham McCausland (we suppose his first name is Wully, and that he is a lineal descendant of Graham of Claverhouse, but perhaps we err). Well, this gentleman is keen on reform; he has the fear of Lord Crewe upon him; he forwards the following interesting notice:—

“Notice is hereby given that farthing stamps being primarily issued solely for internal use [*sic!*] can only be purchased over the counter at a Post Office in the Dependency.

“By Order.”

Perhaps the official lithographer has struck work.

A second notice has also been sent to us:—

“No. 4. POST OFFICE NOTICE.

“On and after February 1st next all postage stamps issued by the Government of the Cayman Islands will only be supplied to applicants for cash over the counter.

“By Order.

“January 2, 1909.”

I am thinking of asking for a year's leave at once, so that I may take a trip to the Grand Cayman, and become “an applicant for cash over the counter,” as I presume that I shall then be allowed to purchase an unlimited quantity of surcharged provisionals (made to order) with the cash I get “from over the counter.”

But seriously, what a curious idea, to kill the goose that laid the golden eggs. There will probably not be any need for separate stamps much longer, as the demand will be so small that Jamaican stamps will answer the purpose.

Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste states that the stock of the 4d., black and red or yellow, issued last year, is exhausted, and that no more of this value will be printed. The premature exhaustion seems to have been caused by the use of this value for making surcharged provisionals.

The Humours of Stamp Collecting

I HOPE that Mr. F. L. Tremicki, of Warsaw, will not feel hurt at the above title, for perhaps the adventure given below did not seem very humorous to him if he was one of the participants. But to come to my correspondent's letter:—

“ . . . By the way, I forgot to mention that Warsaw philatelists have been in luck's way. You are aware that used Russian stamps, 7 kopecks, chiefly, have been cleaned and put on the market again. Well, a fortnight ago twenty-six collectors received simultaneously at midnight a visit from a police inspector, who was accompanied by three policemen and two detectives, and ordered them to hand over their collections of stamps and duplicates. These were sealed up, and each one was conducted to the police station in the town hall and kept there till 12 o'clock next day. They were then set free, but the stamps were kept. At various periods afterwards they were summoned to appear, and the stamps were examined in their presence, and afterwards handed back. There is a Polish saying, ‘Fright has large eyes.’ Well, the officials were looking for those who dealt in stamps with the Jews, and thought they might find among collectors illicit dealers in cleaned stamps. Nothing came of the raid except wives and children had a great fright when paterfamilias ‘owing to his being a stamp collector, was marched off in the middle of the night just like any conspirator against the state.’”

Thank goodness that we do not live in “Holy” Russia!

New Issues and Discoveries

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Crete.—We have received yet another “ΕΛΛΑΣ” overprint on the large 5 drachmae stamp of 1905. The overprint is somewhat similar to Type 40, illustrated last week, but it is longer, and the letters are wider.



24

ΕΛΛΑΣ

41

1909. Type 24 overprinted as Type 41, in black.
5 dr., black and olive-green.

Liberia.—We have received two new sets of stamps which have just been issued for use in this country. The first is a set of ten postage stamps, all of different designs, and the second an Official set, consisting of the stamps forming the ordinary set, but printed in different colours, and overprinted “O.S.”, in one corner, in either black, blue, or red.

All the stamps have been designed, engraved,

nd printed from steel plates by Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co., Ltd., that well-known London firm of stamp manufacturers.

The 1 cent gives a view of a native coffee plantation, with hills in the distance.

The 2 and 30 cents both show a portrait of resident Barclay, from a very life-like photograph by Messrs. Fradelle and Young.

The 5 cents gives a remarkable "seascape" effect: the gunboat *Lark* is seen lying with steam up ready for feats of derring do. A rope frame with the usual knots, with numerals of value in the lower corners, completes a very fine stamp.

The 10 cents is sure to be popular among the younger generation, as it is triangular in form; a figure representing Commerce, reclining on an anchor, forms the central design.

The 15 cents shows a pretty picture of a native woman making cotton thread, sitting in the shade of a huge tree, with her bowl of carded cotton.

The 20 cents has a floral design, showing the Malagueta pepper plant, a native of the country.

The 25 cents looks like a wall calendar, but instead of the almanac, we see a view of a native hut, surrounded by palms.

The 50 cents shows a view of a native "dug-out" canoe.

The 75 cents is really a most singular stamp, as it is in the form of an album of views, with "LIBERIA" on the back on the binding, and a view of a native village on the cover. The illusion is complete, and we can only commend the designers of this elegantly produced novelty or their ingenuity.

We think that philatelists in general will congratulate Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co. upon their latest productions, and express the hope that they may have the opportunity of exercising their talent upon some other issues of the world, where artistic merit is conspicuous by its non-existence.

All stamps are perforated 14, by a comb machine, with the exception of the triangular 10 cents stamp, which is rouletted about 13.



57



58



59



60



60a



60b



60c



60d



60e



60f

1909. Types 57 to 60f. Centres in first colour. Perf. 14 (except 10 c., which is rouletted about 13).

1 c.	black and yellow-green.
2 c.	" brown-red.
5 c.	" blue.
10 c.	" purple.
15 c.	" indigo-blue.
20 c.	myrtle and dull rose.
25 c.	black and black-brown.
30 c.	" deep brown.
50 c.	" myrtle.
75 c.	" chocolate.



68

OFFICIAL STAMPS. 1909. Types 57 to 60f. Centres in first colour. Overprinted with Type 68, in colour given in brackets. Perf. 14 (except 10 c., which is rouletted about 13).

1 c.	black and emerald (red).
2 c.	chocolate and deep rose (blue).
5 c.	black and turquoise-blue (black).
10 c.	blue and black (red).
15 c.	black and purple (blue).
20 c.	myrtle and bistre (black).
25 c.	grey-green and blue (black).
30 c.	steel-blue (red).*
50 c.	grey-green and deep brown (black).
75 c.	black and violet (red).

Natal.—We learn from the *Colonial Office Journal* (4.09) that the four values given below have been sent out in the new colours, but on ordinary paper. According to existing arrangements these values, being printed wholly or partly in doubly fugitive inks, should have been on surfaced paper; but as there is a special set of Revenue stamps we suppose that the precaution was thought unnecessary.

To be issued shortly, on ordinary paper.

- 6d., dull and bright purple.
- 1s., black on green.
- 2s., " and red on blue.
- 10s., green and red on green.

Paraguay.—In last week's issue we stated that a correspondent had told us that he had received a 60 c., *rosy crimson* (Type 39), overprinted "1908," but that it had only been obtained by favour, and would not be issued to the public until April 20, 1909, when it would probably be overprinted "1909."

However, our agent in Asuncion sends us a number of these stamps, and states that they were actually issued on March 5, 1909.



1908

47

39

MARCH 5, 1909. Type 39 overprinted with Type 47,
in black.
60 c., rosy crimson.

Peru.—The new set of stamps mentioned in our issues of August 8, 1908, and April 3, 1909, has now been issued, and Messrs. Th. Champion and Co. have been kind enough to furnish us with a complete set. The whole set is most beautifully printed, as was to be expected from that famous firm of stamp manufacturers the American Bank Note Company of New York; as usual the line-engraved process was used for all values.



54



55



56



57



58



59



60



61



62

1909. Types 54 to 62. Centre in first colour (1 sol).
Perf. 12.

194	1 c., slate-grey.
195	2 c., green.
196	4 c., red.
197	5 c., mauve-violet.
198	10 c., Prussian blue.
199	12 c., greyish blue.
200	20 c., chestnut.
201	50 c., yellow-bistre.
202	1 sol, blue-black and lake.



159

POSTAGE DUE STAMPS. 1909. Type 159. Perf. 12.

447	1 c., chocolate.
448	5 c., "
449	10 c., "
450	50 c., "



203

OFFICIAL STAMPS. 1909. Type 203. Perf. 12.

525	1 c., vermilion.
526	10 c., brown.
527	50 c., olive-green.

Rhodesia.—As has already been explained in a previous number of this paper, the territories administered by the British South Africa Company are now known under the title of "Rhodesia," and therefore the British South African stamps have all been overprinted with the new title. As a need was felt for four new values, viz. 5d., $7\frac{1}{2}$ d., 10d., and 2s., these were formed by surcharging other values of the existing set as illustrated below.



10



11



12

RHODESIA

14

APR. 11, 1909. Types 10 (½d. to 6d.), 11 (1s. to 10s.), and 12 overprinted with Type 14, in black. No wmk. Perf. 14 to 15.

- 90 ½d., green.
- 91 1d., red.
- 92 2d., brown.
- 93 2½d., cobalt.
- 94 3d., claret.
- 95 4d., olive.
- 96 6d., dull purple.
- 97 1s., bistre-buff.
- 98 2s. 6d., bluish grey.
- 99 3s., deep violet.
- 100 5s., orange.
- 101 7s. 6d., black.
- 102 10s., dull green.
- 103 £1, grey-purple.

RHODESIA**5d**

15

RHODESIA**TWO SHILLINGS.**

16

APRIL, 1909. Type 10 surcharged in black.

- 104 15 5d. on 6d., dull purple.
- 105 " 7½d. on 2s. 6d., bluish grey.
- 106 " 10d. on 3s., deep violet.
- 107 16 2s. on 5s., orange.

St. Vincent.—We have received the 2s. and 5s. on multiple, surfaced paper, the colours now being in accordance with the official scheme.

A correspondent has shown us a new design of the 1d. Pax et Justitia type, which has now been issued like the 6d. and 1s. now current.

In the new Catalogue the printers have " pied" the two numbers below the heading dated 1909; at present they read " 96" and " 9", so we again list these below with the correct numbers.



15



16

1909. Types 15 and 16 (5s.). Name and value or tablet of value in second colour. Wmk. Multiple Crown CA, Type w8. Perf. 14.

105	2s., purple and bright blue on blue, C.
106	5s., green and red on yellow, C.



18

1909. Type 18. Wmk. Multiple Crown CA, Type w8. Perf. 14.

110	1d., carmine, O.
114	6d., dull purple, O.]
115	1s. black on green, O.]

The numbers given in the Catalogue and Adendum are *absolutely wrong*, and those given above are correct.

Straits Settlements.—The *Colonial Office Journal* (4.09) states that the following two new stamps have been sent out:—

To be issued shortly.

5 c.	orange, O.
25 c.	dull and bright purple, C.
50 c.	green and red on green, C,

and that the next printing of the 30 c. stamp will conform to the new colour scheme; also that the \$500 will be printed in the colours given below when it is wanted.

Will be issued when required.

30 c.	dull purple and yellow.
\$500	purple and yellow (large stamp).

Trinidad.—Although this colony has adopted the new colour scheme, the colours of the 5s. and £1 stamps will remain as they are at present, according to the *Colonial Office Journal* (4.09). All other values will, of course, be adapted to the scheme.

ANSWERS TO NEW ISSUE CORRESPONDENTS.

J. W. WILSON.—Thanks for your letter. We had already received a set of the new Peruvian stamps; the information re the old 2 soles is new to us.

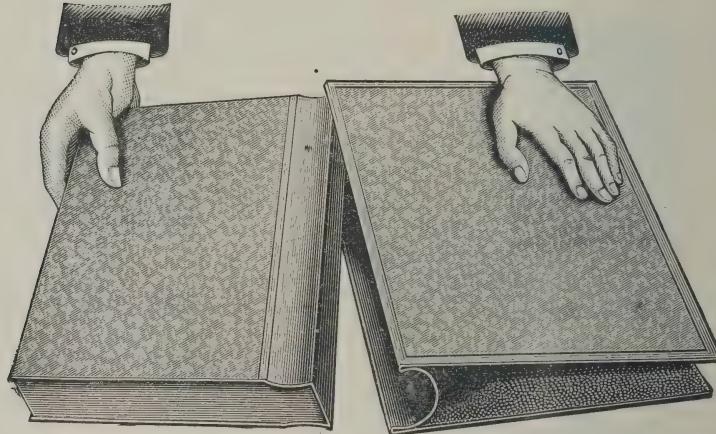
E. D. HARRIS.—Many thanks for cutting. Don't you think it is time that the U.S. Government should be above issuing stamps for collectors?

The Sectional Imperial Album

THIS NEW ALBUM IS FULLY DESCRIBED IN A PAMPHLET
WHICH WILL BE SENT POST-FREE ON APPLICATION.

The Outside Dimensions of the Cover are
 $11\frac{5}{8}$ by $10\frac{7}{8}$ in.

Each Page measures $11\frac{1}{8}$ by 8 in.
clear of Binding.



THE BINDERS

Have been specially made and are of the simplest description; you only have to bend back the cover with one hand and remove the leaves with the other. (*See above.*)

These Binders will hold from twenty to nearly two hundred leaves.

When mounting stamps, the spring-back cover should be removed and the pages laid out quite flat.

They are in two qualities, as follows :

No. 33.—Handsomely covered in marone cloth, bevelled boards, lettered on sides and also in gold on back, with sunk panel on back for insertion of particulars of contents. Price 6/-; post-free, United Kingdom, 6/6; abroad, 7/-.

No. 34.—Superbly half-covered in green Levant Morocco, cloth sides, bevelled boards, gold lettering on back, with sunk panel for contents. Price 15/-; post-free, United Kingdom, 15/6; abroad, 16/-.

STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED,

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Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

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Whole No. 227

MAY 8, 1909

VOL. IX.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

Guatemala—continued

THE decree authorizing the first issue states that the Arms of the Republic are represented on the stamps, but the design is probably incorrectly drawn, as it is quite different from that appearing on later issues. The drawing seems to be an adaptation of the Arms of the Federal Republic of Central America, the chief characteristics of which are a sun and five volcanoes, whereas the Arms of Guatemala as portrayed later show a *quetzal*, the national bird of the country, seated on a scroll bearing the words "Libertad 15 de Setiembre 1821." The latter refer to the date when Guatemala, as the seat of government of the revolting Central American States, published a declaration of independence from Spain.

In Aztec times royalty reserved to itself the exclusive use of the gorgeous plumage of the quetzal, scarlet, indigo-blue, and a superb peacock-green, with two magnificent tail feathers from two to over three feet in length. Revered, if not worshipped, by the Aztecs, the quetzal was chosen as the national emblem of Guatemala, where it is also indigenous.

The stamps were engraved and typographed by Monsieur Hulot at the Hotel de la Monnaie, the French Government Printing Works in Paris, and the values are expressed in *centavos* of a *peso*. At this time an endeavour was being made to introduce the decimal currency into Central America, and 100 *centavos* or 1 *peso* then equalled about 3s. In the older Spanish currency the peso was divided into 8 *reales*. No change, however, was made in the coinage.



		1871. Perf. 14 x 13½.	
		Unused.	Used.
		s. d.	s. d.
1 c., bistre	.	0 2	1 6
5 c., brown	.	0 6	1 3
10 c., blue	.	0 9	2 6
20 c., carmine	.	0 8	1 0

In 1871 President Cerna and the Conservative party were overthrown, and in 1873 J. Rufino Barrios, the leader of the Liberal party, was elected President. In March, 1874, it was announced that a new issue of stamps would be made to commemorate the successful revolution, and also to mark the abandonment of the decimal system, with which the public were not familiar. But previous to this, the 1 c. of the above issue had been suppressed, and the 5 c., 10 c., and 20 c. were being sold at $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, and 2 *reales* respectively. In 1873 two higher values were introduced of a new type and with values expressed in the older currency. The design shows the newer form of arms, but without the inscription on the scroll. The stamps were lithographed, probably locally, and are fairly scarce.



		1873. Perf. 11½.	
		Unused.	Used.
		s. d.	s. d.
4 reales, mauve	.	17 6	12 0
1 peso, yellow	.	15 0	15 0

At this time the system of transit was very primitive and limited, and except between the capital and San José, where diligences were in use, letters were carried by Indian runners. The sales of stamps were very small.

It was at first proposed that President

Barrios should figure on the new issue, but wiser counsels prevailed, and an allegorical figure of Liberty was substituted. The decree announcing the new issue is dated April 19, 1875, and states that from May 15 following the old stamps of 5, 10, and 20 centavos would become obsolete, and that new stamps of $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, and 2 reales, taking their place, would be put into circulation together with a $\frac{1}{4}$ real for use on certain local correspondence. It is thus seen that the 4 r. and 1 p. of 1873 remained in circulation.

The stamps were engraved and typographed by the Columbian Bank Note Co. of Washington, and are very creditable productions.



May 15, 1875. Perf. 12.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
$\frac{1}{2}$ real, black . . .	0 2	0 9
$\frac{1}{2}$ " green . . .	0 3	0 9
1 " blue . . .	0 4	0 9
2 reales, red . . .	0 4	1 0

When the stocks of some values were running low, an order was sent to Paris for a new issue, and a decree authorizing its use is dated January 10, 1878. The stamps of the previous issue were not demonetized, however. The Catalogue gives the date of the issue as 1877, but this is probably because, when the stamps were despatched in October, 1877, a certain quantity was kept back and sold to collectors.

The stamps were engraved by Monsieur E. Mouchon, and typographed by Messrs. A. Chaix and Co., Paris (L'Imprimerie Centrale des Chemins de Fer), on white wove paper, the 1 peso tinted on the surface in same colour as the stamp. Some of these sheets are watermarked with the trade-mark of the manufacturers, "LACROIX FRÈRES," in double-lined capitals. The design, showing a native Indian female with a quetzal at each side, is well drawn, but the printing is poor.



January 10, 1878. Perf. 13 $\frac{1}{2}$.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
$\frac{1}{2}$ real, green . . .	0 2	0 6
2 reales, carmine . . .	0 4	0 9
4 " mauve . . .	0 4	0 8
1 peso, maize . . .	1 0	1 3

Apparently these stamps were not entirely satisfactory, for when the other two values were running out, an order was given to the American Bank Note Co. of New York to prepare and print a supply. These stamps appeared in 1879, and are handsome productions. They were at once popular with collectors, and have been ever since. They show the national bird, seated on an Ionic column, in a central oval in green, with a border in a different colour. They were printed in sheets of 100, ten rows of ten.



1879. Centre in first colour. Perf. 12.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
$\frac{1}{2}$ real, green and brown . . .	0 6	1 0
1 " " black . . .	1 3	1 6

By this time the Central Americans were becoming familiar with the decimal system and in 1881 all the republics decided to adopt it for their coinage and monetary units. This meant that Guatemala needed a new set of stamps, which was ordered from the American Bank Note Co. of New York and was to be of the same design as the 1879 issue, but with the values in centavos. As, however, Guatemala had by then joined the Postal Union, the inscription "CORREOS DE GUATEMALA" was to be replaced by the words "UNION POSTAL UNIVERSAL GUATEMALA."

Before the new issue could be delivered stocks ran out, and in September, 1881, provisional were made by surcharging some of the "Indian" and "Quetzal" stamps in black. The surcharges were type-set and contain many errors.

September, 1881. *Surcharged in black.*

Unused.	Used.
s. d.	s. d.

1 c. on $\frac{1}{4}$ rls., green and brown	—	—
5 c. on $\frac{1}{2}$ rls., green	—	—
10 c. on 1 rls., green and black	—	—
20 c. on 2 rls., carmine	—	—

The new issue was announced by a decree dated November 7, 1881, which also provided for the demonetization of the surcharged stamps after the 15th of the same month.

The Catalogue omits to illustrate the new

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Stock Books, and are, therefore, the Prices at which Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., will have pleasure in supplying any of the stamps that may be needed by any of our readers.

Topical Notes

By SUB

New Catalogue

In a work running into 1000 pages of closely printed matter it is not surprising to find some errors of typography, proof-reading, etc.; indeed, it is a matter for astonishment that more do not creep in.

Perhaps the most curious is the price quoted for a used copy of No. 4, British Honduras — £150. Stupendous! I hope collectors have not been counting their gains, for it is a printer's error for 15s. The price was correct in the American edition of the Catalogue, but in the latter there was an error the other way. The 4 a., with inverted head (No. 14a) was priced, used, at \$3·50 (14s.) instead of \$350·00 (£70). To most people the above are of course obvious printer's errors, but there are one or two more that might receive mention here.

PART I.

Page 34, Antigua. Number following 44 should be 47, not 74.

Page 57, British Solomon Islands. No. 14, price, unused, should be 7d.

Page 77, Maldives. No. 4 is on chalky paper, not ordinary as printed.

Page 79, Cyprus. No. 22, price, used, should be 40s.

Page 89, Gibraltar. The note above No. 37a should read No. 17 in right-hand pane.

Page 94, Grenada. Price 80s., unused, was a misprint, probably for 18s. Our publishers are

type, an omission that will be rectified in the next Catalogue. The frame varies for each value. A sheet or two of the 2 c., 5 c., and 20 c. were printed, by accident, with the centre inverted, and these errors are the rarities of Guatemala.

November, 1881. *Centre in first colour. Perf. 12.*

Unused.	Used.
s. d.	s. d.

1 c., green and black .	0 2	0 2
2 c., " brown .	0 2	0 2
5 c., " red .	0 3	0 3
10 c., " lilac .	0 3	0 4
20 c., " yellow .	0 3	0 3

not offering any just now, but the price should be nothing like the figure quoted.

Page 106, India. The $\frac{1}{2}$ a. and 1 a. Postage and Revenue type of 1906 had the numbers altered from 117 and 118 to 120 and 121 respectively, to allow of the inclusion of the new high values in the preceding list. Unfortunately this being done at the last moment the corresponding numbers in the Service stamps and Convention States were overlooked. The particular numbers should be altered all through the group to agree.

Page 153, Labuan. The price of the set "cancelled to order" after No. 82 should be 1s. 6d.; at present it is higher than if the stamps were bought separately.

Page 163, Mauritius. No. 38, price, unused, should be 2s.

Page 175, New Brunswick. No. 1, price, unused, should be 6s.

Page 190, N.S.W. No. 324 should be described as *pale blue*.

Page 193, N.S.W. No. 485 should be deleted; the stamp is not issued yet. The prices have been confused with those of the stamps perf. II.

Page 201, New Zealand. Attention is called to the paragraph in this week's New Issues.

Page 233, Queensland. Prices of Nos. 317, 318, and 319, used, should all be 4s.

Page 241, St. Vincent. Attention has already been called in the New Issues columns to the confusion of numbers after No. 97. No. 92, mentioned in the Addenda, should be deleted; it does not exist. No. 49 should be described as *brownish pink*.

Page 253, S. Australia. Number following 317a should be 317b.

Page 295, Transvaal. No. 571 is on ordinary paper, not *chalky* as printed. No. 575a should be described as "½d., deep green."

Page 300, Turks Islands. Types 6 and 7 have been transposed.

PART II.

Ecuador. Types 66, 67, and 70 are cancellation marks, and stamps with Type 68 or 69 overprinted are frauds. All stamps from No. 284 to 310 should be deleted. The Guaranda locals are also frauds, and Nos. 571 to 577 should come out. Type O7 is either a cancellation or worse, and Nos. 801 to 809 should be deleted.

Page 222, Gaboon. The first note after No. 30 is misplaced; it should follow No. 15.

Page 340, Sardinia. There are two 10 c., *deep brown*, in the 1855-61 list. No. 27 should be described as *deep umber*.

Page 390, Nicaragua. No. 124 should be described as *pale red*. Type numbers over Nos. 464, 466, and 468 should be "43" in each case. Nos. 470 and 471 are really Nos. 361 and 362 surcharged. The colour of the surcharge is *black*, not *bright blue* as stated.

Other corrections in this country have been already referred to in *G.S.W.* New Issues columns.

Page 418, Persia. No. 268 should be described as 5 ch., *yellow*.

Page 515, Salvador. Nos. 57 and 64 are surcharged on stamp No. 52, not 51 as mentioned.

Page 523, Salvador. Nos. 383 and 384; the variety is "ECNTAVO."

Page 566, Spanish Guinea. The type number above No. 39 should be "3."

Names of Engravers, etc.

THERE are some errors to correct here also. Mr. R. R. Thiele, of U.S.A., the eminent student of these matters, has been kind enough to send us a mass of information on these interesting points, and we shall make use of it in the next edition. We are grateful to this gentleman for past favours in this direction, for much of the information already in the Catalogue was supplied by him.

Russia

RUMOURS have been current that a new issue is projected which will bear the portraits of various wearers of the Imperial crown, including the present Emperor. The *Standard's* St. Petersburg correspondent says:—

"Such a use of the Imperial head is utterly inconceivable in Russia. Postage stamps are made to be defaced, and usually in a very rough-and-ready manner. No Russian would dream of subjecting the effigy of the Czar to such usage as this. Even on the coins, hallowed by immemorial usage of the great nations of antiquity, Russia does not use the Imperial head except on the pure gold and pure silver coins; the base silver and the copper coins bear the Russian eagle only, and the Russian word for 'head' in 'heads or tails' is always 'eagle.'"

Austrian Levant and Crete

A CORRESPONDENT writes with reference to the change of paper mentioned in the New Issues columns:—

"People seem to be tiring of the Austrian Jubilee series since they find they are to be a permanent issue, and not, as at first supposed, a short-time Commemorative set. No one seems to be bothering much about the Jubilee design for Turkish or Cretan offices either. The Turkish boycott of Austria has prevented the use of many of the Austrian stamps, with the result that few people have had many through their hands. The result is that no one seems to have noticed the change of the 1 piastre and 25 centimes values from blue to white paper. As this change occurred over a couple of months ago, those who have not already got them will have little opportunity of filling their spaces at a low price. I dare say most people are placing the 1 piastre on white paper among their 25 heller Austrians, not noticing the change—one dealer to my knowledge has done so."

The Postage Stamps of Belgium—contd.

By CH. DE BONT

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(Continued from page 298.)

ISSUE OF 1893—continued.

The 20 centimes stamp, issued August 1, 1893.

THREE was not much demand for this value; only five printings took place, comprising 12,600,000 stamps.

The following three shades are the only ones we need note:—

Greyish olive, reseda, deep olive.

The only variety of note is:—

"POSTEPYEN," instead of "POSTERIJEN."

In 1904-5 this stamp was printed on thin laid (or striped) paper, in a dull shade of *deep reseda*, which seems to sink into the paper.

The 25 centimes stamp, issued August 1, 1893.

There were twelve printings of this stamp, giving 36 million copies.

As was the case with *green*, blue colouring matter is very unstable; blue ink is generally composed of mineral substances, which undergo rapid changes when exposed to damp or to sunlight.

However, in the case of this particular stamp, the shades did not vary so much, owing to the very superior quality of the ultramarine ink. The following shades are to be noted:—

Blue, pale blue, deep blue, dull blue (showing traces of violet), bright blue.

In 1904-5 the 25 centimes stamp was printed on thin laid (or striped) paper, in a deep blue shade.

Varieties.

A certain office in Brussels chanced to receive in its usual supply one sheet of this value ungummed.

The printing that took place in 1903 was very bad ; the shade was a very pale blue, and the inscriptions and portions of the design are exceedingly badly printed.

In the early printings copies have been found in which the figure "5" of the "25," situate in the upper left-hand corner, had the ball omitted.

The 35 centimes stamp, issued November 1, 1893.

This value was used pretty considerably, and consequently there were eight printings, producing 6,920,000 copies.

The interest here centres round the different inks used in printing it.

First printing.	Brown ink, with a trace of violet in it, was used mixed with the ink used for printing the same value of the issue of July 1, 1891.
Second ,,	The colour is blacker or greyer.
Third ,,	violet-brown.
Fourth ,,	pale violet-brown.
Fifth ,,	bright deep red-brown.
Sixth ,,	The colour is pale red-brown, forming a great contrast to the preceding printing.
Seventh ,,	The colour is pale brown, or rather pale bistre, quite different from the sixth printing.
Eighth ,,	1904-5. On thin laid (or striped) paper. Only 1000 sheets were printed, so this printing is extremely rare. Two shades are known : very pale lilac-brown and deeper lilac-brown ; the former shade is by far the rarer, being worth about £1, according to some authorities.

The 50 centimes stamp, issued October 1, 1893.

There were only two printings of this stamp, comprising 747,000 copies.

First printing. Well printed, clear impression; yellow-ochre.

Second ,,, Thicker impression, not nearly so clear; pale ochre.

The 1 franc stamp, issued October 1, 1893.

Of this stamp there were also only two printings, comprising 224,000 copies :—

First printing. Carmine on pale green.

Second ,,, Bright carmine on pale green.

In the second printing an extraordinary variety is known consisting of the figure "1" in the upper left-hand corner, interlaced with a design resembling an anchor or an ornament of some sort. This variety has fetched high prices, and cannot be found nowadays in an unused condition.

The 2 francs stamp, issued November 1, 1893.

Two printings only, consisting of 168,000 copies. The two printings differ only as regards the ground colour.

First printing. Bright lilac on rose.

Second ,,, Lilac on pale rose.

In the first printing sheets are known properly printed but with a defective perforation ; the second printing is far better than the first, being clearer, while the inscriptions are more legible.

Variety.

Defective impression of the whole stamp.

The 2 centimes, red-brown; issued September 15, 1894.

The new colour of this stamp was authorized by paragraph 4 of a Ministerial Decree dated October 24, 1893 :—

" 4. The orange colour used for the 2 centimes stamp is hereby altered to red-brown.

" Brussels, October 24, 1893.

(Signed) "J. VANDENPEEREBOOM."

There being a steady demand for this stamp, there were a good many printings, comprising 42,500,000 copies.

First of all the remainder of the ink used for this value in the issue of December 15, 1888, was used, and later on, the same ink was mixed with the ink used for the 35 centimes stamp. Thus the following shades made their appearance in the order given :— Brown (with traces of violet), red-brown, pale violet-brown, reddish violet-brown.

In 1904 this value was also printed on laid (or striped) paper, in a deep red-brown shade ; the impression was rather thick.

Varieties are known in which there are defects in the words "POSTERIJEN" and "ZONDAG"; also "ROSTES," instead of "POSTES."

The 50 centimes, grey.

The colour of the 50 centimes stamp was changed by the following Ministerial Decree :—

" POSTS No. 300. TELEGRAPHS No. 337.

" THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, POSTS,
AND TELEGRAPHS.

" PURSUANT TO paragraph 2 of the Royal Decree of June 9, 1884, authorizing the Minister of Public Works (actually of Railways, Posts, and Telegraphs) to determine the values, colours,

and dates of issue of stamps and postal franking formulæ in general :—

“ AND HAVING DULY CONSIDERED the Decree of May 15, 1893, fixing the colour of the postage stamps :—

“ DECREES :—

“ 1. The 50 centimes postage stamp now printed in *bistre* will in future be printed in *grey*.

“ Brussels, March 31, 1897.
(Signed) “ J. VANDENPEEREBOOM.”

(To be continued.)

This stamp was issued on September 15, 1893; there were eight printings, comprising 1,305,000 copies.

They are interesting as regards the shades, which run from *light grey* to *black*, and were issued in the order given below :—

Grey, deep grey, black-grey (very rare), mauve-grey, pearl-grey, and the 1904-5 printings on thin laid (or striped paper; very pale grey, dull grey (heavy impression).

Chili

By CHAS. M. C. SYMES

UNDoubtedly Chili is from the moderate specialist's point of view the pick of the South American countries. The unfailing interest which the stamps possess, their straightforwardness, simplicity of design, and freedom, to a large extent, from the faker's hand cause them to be universally popular. The early Perkins Bacon stamps offer great advantages, both for the moderate specialist and for the man who carries the study to a vast depth.

It is not of much use trying to purchase stamps direct from Chili, as the philatelists across the pond are exceedingly keen on collecting their own stamps, and therefore we must rely upon obtaining our supplies either at home or on the Continent. The early Perkins Bacon stamps are some of the finest stamps in existence—beautiful pieces of work they admittedly are. The London firm first sent out supplies in July, 1853. Some few years ago there was much doubt about the exact date of issue, as an ordinance dated October 20, 1852, caused the public to believe that stamps were then in use. However, the following emanated from the President of the Republic in June, 1853. His words were: “The Ordinance passed last October which established prepayment of postage and reduces the rates will be put in force from July 1, 1853. The stamps were ordered from Europe, and having been received at the end of April, there has not yet been time to distribute them throughout the Republic.” Thus we can have no doubt as to the exact date of issue. The stamps accordingly were despatched from London,



and we note from the above their arrival late in April. The stamps were of two values only, 5 centavos and 10 centavos, the former value in *lave* and the latter in *blue*. It is rather interesting to note that these stamps were on blue paper due to colouring. Those who are interested in the early stamps of our own

country will probably call to mind that the same thing happened then, and was put down to the gum. However, this is not the case, as it has subsequently been found that the blueing is due to the fact that the paper before being printed upon was wetted, thus causing the ink to spread, resulting in a blued margin round the stamp.

Oft-times one may come across copies with very slightly blued margins due to a light impression. The stamps were printed in sheets of 240, and the total number was 299,760 of the 5 c. and 200,160 of the 10 c. respectively. The watermarks are large double-lined numerals “5” or “10” corresponding to the value, and may be found in many positions, being normal, upside-down, and backwards. The rarest of the three positions is the “backwards,” though the upside-down position is by no means easy to get, especially in mint condition; in fact, all the early stamps of this country are exceedingly difficult to obtain in mint condition, and the collector must also keep his eyes open and be careful in accepting unused copies, as a very large number of cleaned stamps are about. A similar difficulty will be experienced in obtaining strips and blocks of these stamps, as very few parcels were then sent. In compliance with the Chilian officials' request, Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co. despatched the plates and frames for making the paper with the stamps, so that it will be readily seen that it was intended to print the stamps in their own country. In a remarkably short time the supply ran short, and thus we find that in the following year a further supply was needed, which was, of course, printed in Chili. Of this new supply there is a remarkable history and one which astonished philatelists not a little. About ten years ago Mr. J. N. Luff, of New York, obtained a copy of the 5 c., red; which to him appeared curious. Upon close examination he came to the conclusion that the stamp had been produced by lithography. His evidence was that the impression was irregular,

due to the transferring of the paper to the stone, the paper having several small folds in it. The theory held by Mr. Luff was confirmed by others, and all agreed that such a stamp could only have been produced by means of lithography. Up till then no lithographed stamps had been heard of or chronicled, so the finding of such stamps was, of course, a great surprise. The lithographed stamps are very scarce and are rarely met with, as it is believed only one printing of 155,520 stamps was made. The exact date of the printing is unknown, but I see in Gibbons' Catalogue that the probable date is June. The advent of these newly found stamps caused not a few to study Chili, and the discovery which I have alluded to is one of the fascinations of stamp collecting, as it clearly shows the value of minute and scientific study. I might say that these stamps are exceedingly hard to tell unless they present manifest flaws (of which, I believe, there are some nine or ten varieties), the majority closely resembling the local impressions. At a later date, viz. August or October, 120,000 of the 5 c. and 120,000 of the 10 c. were printed. It will be found by examination that the watermark "5" is not so tall as in the previous issue, but it is about the same width. The watermark "10" is of the same dimensions as previously, and both watermarks are found in the same variety of positions as before. The design is not nearly so clear as the English-printed ones, as often lines are quite indistinguishable; the lower value, however, is better than the higher one, for though the design is clearer, yet the ink with which the stamps were printed is of a peculiar shade—faded, I should think. In the next year, however, we notice a further supply from London of the 5 c., brown-red. There is a marked superiority in design which stamps them British, and also it may be mentioned that the watermark is taller than both previous ones and is about the same width as before: the neck in this case is upright. Again, in 1857, according to a report from the Minister of the Interior, we find that another printing took place in Chili. Stamps of both values were supplied, and the impressions were a great improvement on previous local attempts. The lower value was not so good as the specimens from England, but the higher value was exceedingly well done—a credit to the native printers. The watermarks are of the same dimensions as the previous issue, and also they may be found in like positions. The year 1861 brought forth two new values of 1 centavo and 20 centavos respectively. The former value was utilized to prepay postage on printed matter (which previously had been paid in cash), and the latter value was used for the prepayment of heavy letters and parcels.

These two new values had been ordered from Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co., of London, and were put in use January 1, 1862. I might here mention that a supply of the 10 centavos, which was received in the previous August from London, was also put into circulation at the same time as the new stamps. The 1 c. is of lemon-yellow colour—not a very fascinating one—and is watermarked "1." The 10 c. is of the same blue colour, and the 20 centavos is green and is watermarked "20." The watermark of the 10 c. is of the same height as before, but is 1 mm. broader. The number of stamps printed is considerable, for the printers state that 2,997,120 of 1 c., 2,997,760 of the 10 c., and 2,999,760 of the 20 c. left these shores for Chili, together with a generous supply of paper and ink; and I am given to understand that the plates of the two new values were also despatched. This issue of 1862 is very scarce in mint condition and is hard to get in pairs; the 20 c. presents a special difficulty. I have only seen one mint pair, and that is the property of the writer. A further local printing of the 5 c. was made in 1865 upon the paper which was sent out in 1861. The difference from previous issues consists in the watermark, which is a rude "5" of exceptional length between the neck and body. To give an impression of the figure, it is from 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 13 mm. high and 6 to 7 mm. wide, and the distance from the body to the neck is out of all reasonable proportion. The watermark is found in all the positions previously mentioned. Six thousand sheets, or 1,440,000 stamps, were printed both in the year of issue (1865) and also in the following year (1866). With this last issue the Perkins Bacon and locally printed stamps come to a conclusion. The fact cannot be gainsaid that the stamps afford the specialist every opportunity for scientific investigation. The watermarks then were each made separately and not, as is now the case, constructed from one and the same die. Therefore it will be readily seen that a sheet of 240 stamps will show 240 more or less distinct varieties: thus specialists have a field of unlimited scope unequalled by any other country. The stamps of these early issues, as before mentioned, are very hard to get in pairs unused mint and used, but not in singles, although many unused singles present some difficulty. It is a significant fact that even the largest dealers in this country have but very poor stocks of these early issues, for many times I have been surprised at the scanty stock books presented containing little or no variety. Care should be taken in buying early Chilians from auctions, for I have invariably seen large numbers of cleaned stamps included in lots.

(To be continued.)

The Provisional Stamps of Peru during the Chilian Occupation—concluded

Translated from *L'Echo de Timbrologie*, by NORMAN THORNTON

(Continued from page 274.)

Moquegua

THIS department is the most southern of Peru; its area is about 15,000 square miles, and the population about 29,000. The town of Moquegua, its capital, has about 4000 inhabitants, and is surrounded by excellent vineyards which have earned the district the name of the "Peruvian Bordeaux." It is connected by rail with the port of Pacocha.

In February, 1881, the 10 c. blue stamp of Arequipa was overprinted in violet with the word "MOQUEGUA" in an oval. From March, 1883, the 10 c., red, of Arequipa was used with a double surcharge: the first that of Arequipa in blue, in a double circle, and the second "MOQUEGUA" in violet, in an octagon.

From May 10, 1884, the following stamps of Peru were used:—

(1) With the overprint here shown in violet: 1 c., orange; 5 c., blue, this latter



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with the overprint in red and also in violet; also the 1 c., green; 2 c., carmine; and 5 c., blue, overprinted with the "PERU" oval, Type 4, in addition.

(2) With "MOQUEGUA" in a dotted circle, in violet: 5 c., blue, and 10 c., slate.

Lastly, in April, 1885, the 10 c., olive, issued at Arequipa on April 16, was issued at Moquegua with the octagonal overprint in violet.

Paita

This town, with a population of about 2500, situated in the province of Piura, is a port on the Pacific coast. In April and May, 1884, the following stamps of Peru were used overprinted as shown.



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Issues of 1874-9 and 1884:—

5 c., blue;	black overprint.
5 c. ,	red ,
5 c., ultramarine;	black ,
10 c., green	" ,
10 c., slate	" ,

Pasco

The province of Pasco is an important mining centre in the department of Junin. The capital is Cerro de Pasco, with a population of about 14,000.

In April and May, 1884, the following stamps of Peru, issues of 1877-84, perf. 12 were used with overprint of Type 28:—



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5 c., blue; red overprint.
5 c., ultramarine; red overprint.

10 c., slate; black overprint.

1 c., orange; black and violet overprints,
with triangle in addition.
2 c., carmine; black and violet overprints,
with "Lima" oval, Type
3, in addition.

Pisco

Is the capital of the province of Chincha in the department of Yca, of which it is the port. The 5 c., blue, 1874-9, of Peru was the only stamp used as a provisional with the overprint "PISCO" in an oval in black, and it was used from April to May, 1884.



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Piura

This department is made up of two districts: one, low-lying and dry near the coast, the other, in the interior, high and damp. The area of the department is about 25,000 square miles, and the population numbers about 210,000. The capital, Piura, with about 7000 inhabitants, is on the river of the same name, and is joined by rail to the port of Paita on the Pacific Ocean.

From May, 1884, to December, 1885, the offices of this department used stamps of Peru struck successively with four different overprints. We have illustrated them here,

A second overprint, Type 36, was applied from April, 1884, to December, 1885, on the following stamps of Peru :—

1 c., orange ;	violet overprint.
1 c., violet	" "
2 c., blue ;	black "
20 c., carmine	" "
1 c., orange	" " and triangle.
2 c., vermillion	" triangle and horseshoe.

Numerous forgeries of these provision overprints are known, some very cleverly executed and difficult to distinguish from genuine specimens. Amongst the best-known are the 10 c., blue, 25 c., carmine, and 10 c. red, of Arequipa, and the overprints "AREQUIPA" and "PUNO" in double circle, and "CUZCO" in an oval.

Rudiments

By C. RAYMOND MEGSON

WHEN the average philatelic writer compiles a work intended as a guide for the young stamp collector, he seems to forget that the beginner's mind is only in its nonage and incapable of fully comprehending an array of stamp terminology. Years of study make the philatelist at home with expressions and phrases such as form a sort of cryptography for the neophyte, and this is often overlooked. It is undoubtedly difficult for the advanced collector to determine what actually is simple and what is not, simplicity itself being elusive. What is simple to one is a *pons asinorum* to another. Too, the philatelist's inherent modesty generally debars him from authorship until he has become a student too far advanced to be able to clearly see the horizon of the young collector.

Further than this, it always seems a failing of guides to the young stamp collector that they are too complete. All that is necessary is to give him a broad view of what philately is and what it teaches; it is invidious to attempt to crowd next year into this; next year will follow in due course.

It is therefore the purpose of the writer to furnish a help to the young collector, one which will teach just enough, and not too much, avoiding as far as possible terms of a technical character.

What is Philately?

According to the young collector, philately is stamp collecting; but to the philatelist stamp collecting is not philately. However, this is a point upon which we need not dwell. Philately is a tabloid of wealth in the abstract, and tangible. The tyro first feels the force of the former; the latter comes in time—but give it time.

How to Collect.

When you have decided to become a stamp collector, purchase an album, some hinges, a catalogue, other odds and ends, and some stamps. Place the last named in the first named by means of the second named, with reference to the third named. You will have

made a good start. If you have any duplicates, these you may exchange—or sell. But if the latter method is adopted and carried out by means of advertisement, always tell yourself "Collector" or "Philatelist," otherwise you might be mistaken for a dealer or collector dealer (this is very different from dealer collector). It is as well to avoid the

Do not on any account use fish glue or seccotine to affix your specimens in the album, even though your friends be a little weak on the *meum* and *tuum* understanding.

What is a Postage Stamp?

In the early days of prepaid postage the small adhesives affixed to postal communications in order to denote prepayment were termed labels. As the collectors of such presented being categorized as label collectors, the name of these adhesives was changed to postage stamps.

Almost everyone has seen a postage stamp, but all who have not can purchase one at 3 Martin's-le-Grand, London, for the small sum of one halfpenny. Orders by post should contain stamped addressed envelope for reply.

How are Postage Stamps Made?

The study of postage-stamp production is teeming with interest. The process is as follows: A sheet of paper is impressed on one side with a number of designs, general replicas, and on the other side is placed a layer of gum known to philatelists as O.G. to philatelic writers as mucilage. The stamp is then complete, though sometimes is added a perforation to every side of the stamp (see chapter on Perforations).

On which surface to place the design is determined by a watermark (see chapter on Watermarks).

The designs on a sheet often vary slightly, but this is done to give stamp collectors little amusement.

What is a Watermark?

A watermark is a misnomer; it has nothing to do with water. However, much of the

sirit of philately enters into it. A watermark is a thinning of the paper in design by means of a "bit" on a dandy roll. (This has nothing to do with horse-racing.) Watermarks are often elusive, the discovery of which should never be attempted after a convivial evening. There are "singles" and "multiples," wherein lie a difference of owns.

Paper.

There are several kinds of papers (no allusion is made to periodicals)—Pelure, Laid, Jove, Dickinson, Granite, etc., and Chalky, which has nothing to do, however, with stamp collectors.

Stamp Designs.

The designs on stamps are many and varied, ranging from heads and arms to canons and "big guns." Some are worthy of the name, others are not. Still—stamps is stamps.

What Stamps to Study.

All. P.S.—Don't forget the catalogue.

Perforations.

Many stamps are surrounded by notches or dentoids. These are termed perforations; now amongst the advanced as perfs. here are various perfs., some of which are roulettes. In order to discriminate between perfs. and roulettes, take, say, a 1900 issue of Chili and a 1901 issue. One is perforated,

the other is rouletted. Whichever is which is not the other, and all stamps which are neither are imperf.

What Stamps to Buy.

Any. P.S.—Same as above.

Where to Buy.

The stamp collector should exercise discrimination when buying stamps, as some dealers are unscrupulous. There are many, however, possessed of the strictest integrity and who will treat you well. Amongst these I might mention Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd. [The editor is of opinion that this chapter is quite long enough.]

A few stamp terms might prove of interest to the young collector, so a few are given.

Philately. The cult of the philatelist.

Philatelist. One who engages in philately.

O.G. This means, "Orl Gum."

None licked off.

Dealing. A side line of some collectors.

The foregoing constitutes all that the beginner need know. There has been no attempt to enlarge upon the usefulness and intricacies of philately, but merely to school the young mind in the important rudiments of the hobby, the writer feeling it a "Delightful task to rear the tender thought."

Romance of Philately

In Old Exercise Book

By SYDNEY CAMMERAY

ONE evening in an interesting old English town, after the business of the day had been done, I was chatting cross the counter to the proprietor of the hop and telling him of scenes in other lands—the blue water of Teneriffe, the bathing of the elephants at Candy, the sacred aloa of a sunset against the silhouette of one of the Pyramids—when he said:—

"Look here, I am just going to shut up. If you have no other engagement on, come inside and have an hour with me. I would give ten years of my life to have seen the sights you have seen, and here I am born and bred in this town, and have never been further from it than a day in London."

So I passed in to a cosy sitting-room, where I met my friend's wife, and where have since spent several pleasant evenings.

In the course of this evening I spoke about the scenery in Tasmania, and I said—

"By the way, I can show you a small picture of Tasman's Arch, named after the old Dutch navigator, but you must get a magnifying glass to make it distinct."

I produced from my pocket-book a 2½d. stamp of the series of Tasmanians issued in 1900. It happened to be in mint condition, and I apologized for being faddy, but said, "Please don't finger it; just let it lie there and look at it. We collectors are rather over-particular, and do not handle stamps except with tongs."

"You see," I proceeded, "you can see through that Arch the open sea. Well, this Tasman's Arch is the spot described in Marcus Clarke's novel, *For the Term of His Natural Life*, as the place where one of the convicts escaped from the Port Arthur peninsula. All that series of stamps are reproduced from photographs taken by the best landscape photographer in Tasmania, Mr. W. J. Beattie."

"Well, well," said my friend, looking at

me rather admiringly, "you make even a stamp interesting."

"No, I don't," I replied, "it is the stamp itself that is interesting; only as a stamp collector I try to get some knowledge of the countries in which I specialize in my collection."

"You ought to show him your old stamps, James," said his wife.

At this I pricked up my ears and pushed the matter further.

"Oh, you collect too, do you?"

"No, I don't collect now, but I did when I was a boy, and I have an old exercise book somewhere kicking about, if my grandson hasn't taken it, in which I used to stick my stamps. Why, it's over forty years since I put any in it. Do you know where it is, Molly? I have not seen it for months."

"I think you'll find it on that top shelf, in that book-case. I put it up there out of Harold's reach, because, you see, Harold collects stamps too, and I think he is too young to understand them, and I heard old stamps were worth money."

The husband went off to look for the exercise book, and I turned to his wife.

"It is not the *old* stamps that are worth the money so much as the *rare* stamps that have the high value. Now, for instance, the old Penny Blacks, the first adhesive stamps ever issued, are only worth about one shilling each to-day, after having been used on a letter in the year 1840; whereas one of the Papuan stamps sold at fourpence four years ago is now worth five or six shillings after being used on a letter; while there are even better instances of more recent stamps being worth more."

Just then my friend found the book and brought it over to me. It was a common exercise book with his name written on it in a boyish hand and dated, "August 1856," and he said that was the date he started to use it, and he reckoned he had it in all for about four years.

A glance through this book made my mouth water and my heart ache. Here, in true schoolboy style—the style of those days—was pasted down a collection of stamps which, if they had been perfect and properly cared for, would have been priced at about five hundred pounds.

Here were a number of the triangular Cape of Good Hope 1d., 4d., 6d., and 1s. heedless of varieties, but unhappily torn and creased and thumbed over. Here were twenty of the 1857-9 issue of pence Ceylon, including several of the imperforate 1s. 9d., yellow-green. Here were seven Sydney Views 1d., 2d., and 3d. But why go on?

The book was full of wrecks.

"Oh, dear," I sighed, "it almost makes

me weep to see so many good stamps so torn and damaged."

"James is not going to sell them," said his wife. "I am keeping them till my grandchild is older."

She evidently thought I wanted to cheapen them preparatory to an offer.

"That is the best thing to do," I said. "I will bring the catalogue with me another evening, if you will allow me, and I will give you an idea of the value of those rare damaged; but what a pity you did not take more care of them."

So in the course of a few evenings I called, and compared the stamps with the catalogue. Of those in good condition, a few which could be carefully got off the page intact, I valued over fifty pounds; but I again bemoaned the spoiled beauties scattered all through the book. There was, as he had said, nothing in it later than 1860, and as he had an uncle who had been the captain of a sailing ship, and who visited all sorts of places, the stamps he got were varied and many. Every leaf of this book was filled both sides, and he said he had started a second book, but a friend had asked him to let it a few years ago to add to his collection.

On a subsequent evening I met Harold, the grandson, a boy of fourteen, and looked over his small collection, to which I added an envelope full of some of my duplicates. I showed Harold how to mount them properly, impressed him with the necessity of not losing a tooth of a perforation, explained the perforation measurements to him and watermarks, presented him with my catalogue and his guidance, and told him that no doubt some of the stamps he was now collecting and mounting would, when he had kept them for forty-eight years like his grandfather, be worth many pounds.

Who knows? Harold will then be sixteen.

I left Harold an enthusiastic philatelist.

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Foreign Notes

By FRANK PHILLIPS

German Postal Statistics

ACCORDING to an article which appeared in the *Berliner Briefmarken-Zeitung*, the following were the actual numbers of stamps sold during 1906 and 1907 in the whole of the post offices of the German Empire:—

	1906.	1907.
2 pf.	144,993,558	112,814,549
3 „ „ „ „ .	580,494,852	655,190,426
5 „ „ „ „ .	1,267,901,451	1,439,587,611
10 „ „ „ „ .	1,017,952,295	1,061,723,792
20 „ „ „ „ .	202,397,221	214,080,965
25 „ „ „ „ .	66,016,403	66,771,493
30 „ „ „ „ .	53,532,874	57,721,066
40 „ „ „ „ .	25,187,328	26,166,344
50 „ „ „ „ .	97,114,662	98,423,553
80 „ „ „ „ .	6,595,982	6,606,901
1 m. „ „ „ „ .	8,365,325	8,563,845
2 „ „ „ „ .	1,518,611	1,583,107
3 „ „ „ „ .	222,514	203,577
5 „ „ „ „ .	129,882	101,341

The above figures are inclusive of all German Colonial stamps sold during those years.

New Hebrides Condominium

In *G.S.W.*, dated February 13, the quantities of each value surcharged on the old stamps were given on the authority of a French contemporary. According to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* the figures were not quite accurate, the correct list given below being supplied by the High Commissioner of the Western Pacific:—

½d.	.	.	12,000
1d.	.	.	30,000
2d.	.	.	20,136
2½d.	.	.	30,000
5d.	.	.	12,000
6d.	.	.	6,000
1s.	.	.	2,880

On reference to the previous list it will be noticed that there were supposed to be 3,000 of the 2d. and 3,000 of the 1s.

Our contemporary states that the work of overprinting was executed in the Government Printing Office at Suva.

New Currency in Siam

CORRESPONDENT of *Le Collectionneur de timbres-Poste* sends our contemporary the following extract from a Siamese paper:—

"Up to the present, there are no postage stamps corresponding to the new Siamese monetary system. But lately we have been informed that new sets have been ordered in satangs (or mts), which are expected during April, and which will be issued at the beginning of the new Siamese year."

There are 100 satangs to the tical, which is about the same value as a rupee; the metric system is found to be a great boon in all commercial undertakings.

Spanish Colonial Stamps

THE new set of stamps for Rio de Oro which was listed in *G.S.W.*, April 17, '09, is not the only change in the Spanish colonies. A similar set, identical except as regards the inscrip-



tion and colours, has been prepared, and in fact will probably have been issued by the time these notes appear, for use in three of the Spanish colonies, or groups of colonies in Africa, namely, Spanish Guinea, Elobey, Annobon, Corisco, and Fernando Poo.

The territories bearing these names are of the most trivial importance as regards politics and commerce, and their name is kept before the philatelic public alone by their numerous issues of stamps, and still more so by the quantity of surcharged provisionals for which they are responsible. Why these tracts of land should have been blessed, or cursed (?) with postage stamps nobody knows; as a matter of fact, they only possessed stamps in an irregular kind of fashion; for did some diligent correspondent demand from the one and only post office within a radius of many miles a quantity of stamps sufficient to frank about a dozen letters, the unhappy postmaster in charge was obliged to surcharge any labels at all resembling stamps which he might have in stock to satisfy the unwonted demand.

According to the *Madrid Filatélico* (31.1.09), the stamps are inscribed "Territorios Españoles del Golfo de Guinea," and were sent out at the end of January.

The numbers printed are as follows:—

1 c., 2 c.	200,000	each.
5 c., 10 c., 15 c., 40 c. .	100,000	,
20 c.	60,000	,
25 c., 30 c.	80,000	,
50 c.	150,000	,
1 p., 4 p., 10 p.	25,000	,

Our contemporary also gives the numbers printed of the new Rio de Oro stamps, chronicled as above; they were as follows:—

1 c., 2 c., 5 c., 10 c., 15 c.,	{	10,000	each.
20 c., 25 c., 30 c., 40 c., 50 c.		5,000	,

From the ridiculously small quantities of the lower values that were printed, it is quite clear that this issue has only been made with the idea of allowing persons holding official positions to buy up the stocks, with a view to retailing them subsequently at a high premium!

Charity Stamps

THE information given in the Catalogue as to the designs of the above seems to be wrong in two instances.

The monument on the 3(6) kop. stamp of Russia (Type 12) is not that erected at Sebastopol to Admiral Nachimoff, the hero of the naval combat of Sinope. According to *Le Journal des Philatéliste*, it is the monument erected at Malakoff to the memory of Admiral Korniloff, who was one of the most gallant defenders of Sebastopol in the Crimean War (1854-5). A humbler hero is also commemorated on the statue, the figure at the base representing the sailor Koschka, whose deeds of bravery and skill are household stories in Russia.

The same journal points out that Type 65 of Roumania is not altogether correctly described. It is not the Queen of Roumania and her children who are the almoners. The royalties represented are the Princess Maria of Saxe-Coburg, the Consort of the Crown Prince, with her four children, the Princesses Elizabeth and Marie, and the Princes Carol and Nicholas. Moreover the name Maria appears in the left border of the stamp. The border, or rather the crosses comprising same, were designed by the Princess herself. These crosses have served as patterns for gold and silver trinkets, which, it appears, are quite the fashion in Roumania.

An Unwritten Page of Bessemer's Life

MOST people are acquainted with the name of Bessemer, the great English metallurgist, whose methods for the production of steel are used almost universally to-day on the score of simplicity and economy. Less known is the fact that before Bessemer turned to metallurgy, he was keenly interested in the process of engraving—namely about 1851. His experiments had turned in the direction of the manufacture of plates for the printing of postage stamps, and he discovered a means of reproducing an exact facsimile very easily and cheaply. In the hands of an unscrupulous man the invention would have spelt disaster for the Treasury; but luckily Bessemer was as honest as he was clever; he did not seek to make the slightest use of his invention, but at once set to work to discover some method of procedure in the manufacture of plates that should render his idea of making facsimiles abortive. In this he was successful.

Here we will extract a paragraph from M. de Varigny's book, *Les Grandes Fortunes aux Etats Unis et en Angleterre*, where the life of Bessemer is given in detail:—

"He (Bessemer) having perfected his two inventions, managed to secure an interview with Sir Ch. Presley, the Postmaster-General, to whom he explained his first invention relating to facsimiles, and then his ideas for a new design

of stamp, which he proposed should be substituted for those then in use, and which it would not be possible to imitate.

"I did not doubt for a moment," he wrote, "but that the Government would reward me for the invention I brought into being."

Bessemer was young, and trusted to the gratitude of the Government. Sir Ch. Presley was an admirable Government official, who at once saw how important the invention was, and admitted to the young inventor that far less accurate facsimiles than his were causing a loss of over £100,000 per annum to the Treasury. Sir Charles concluded by offering Bessemer the choice of either a sum of £5000, or of the position of Superintendent of Stamps, at a salary of £720 a year. Without hesitation Bessemer chose the latter.

Bessemer returned home to tell his young wife of his good fortune, and she, having always inspired him to push his researches to the end, remarked that his invention would be absolutely complete if he could incorporate in the stamp a date which would make impossible for it to be used twice over.*

Bessemer followed her advice, and was soon able to lay a still more perfect process before Sir Ch. Presley, who was delighted as it allowed of his introducing the new process without altering the existing stamps or reorganizing the various offices; the old presses would also still be available for use.

But . . . there was no longer any need for a Superintendent of Stamps, for the new process was so very simple, and by its simplicity has saved the British Government over £5,000,000 since its adoption.* Poor Henry Bessemer was left unrewarded; when he applied for his post of Superintendent he was told that it was a nice thing to render his country a service and then to send in a bill! Bessemer was young, proud, and powerless, so he held his peace, and resolved to have nothing more to do with the ungrateful Government?

From that time onwards he devoted himself entirely to metallurgy, and discovered his wonderful process of making steel cheaply. In his experiments he had the constant support of the French Imperial Government, and in 1867 it was desired to offer him the Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour. For this the consent of the British Government was necessary . . . and . . . it was refused.

Now what was Bessemer's process for protecting stamps against imitation? The watermark is out of the question, as that was already in use. Has the mystery of the conversations between Bessemer and Sir Ch. Presley ever been solved? We do not know. . . . Perhaps some one of our readers can give us the answer.

Le Timbre-Poste.

* Can it have been a question of the impressed Inland Revenue stamp?

New Issues and Discoveries

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Austrian Crete.—We have seen a copy of the 5 centimes on *white* instead of *blue-toned* paper. The 1 piast., Austrian Levant, is mentioned in Topical Notes as on similar paper. Have any of our readers seen this?



55
1909. Type 55. Perf. 12½.
423a| 25 c., deep blue (on white).

Crete.—In our issue of March 20 we listed 5 on 20 l., orange (No. 99), assuming that the two figures "5" surcharged thereon were from the type issued for the 1904 provisional.

Messrs. Th. Champion et Cie have now sent another stamp, the 20 l., rose, of the 1900 issue, similarly overprinted, and on examination we find that the figures "5" are by no means like those of the 1904 provisional.

We would therefore ask our readers to delete the chronicle of the 5 on 20 l., orange, and substitute that given below.



ΕΛΛΑΣ

ΠΡΟΣΩΡΙΝΟΝ
5 5

1909. Type 8 surcharged with Type 37a, in black.
5 on 20 l., rose (No. 74).
5 on 20 l., orange (No. 92).

Jhind.—A correspondent has shown us a copy of the current 2½ annas stamp of India overprinted for use in this State.



JHIND
STATE

3

1909. Type 45 (of India) overprinted with Type 3, in black.
155b| 2½ a., ultramarine.

New Zealand.—We have received the current 2d. in a new shade which is much redder than the *purple* listed under No. 288.

As regards this 2d., there is a note in the Catalogue after No. 228a saying this value was printed from a new plate, and that the size differs from the London impression. The size being so much smaller, the Catalogue should certainly illustrate the redrawn type, and below is an illustration which will appear in the next edition. The ½d. was also redrawn, but the design being only slightly contracted in the border, the vignette remaining untouched, the size does not differ materially and needs no separate illustration.

We are informed that there is considerable doubt as to the existence of No. 306a, and for the time being anyway it would be better to delete this number from the lists.

In notes after Nos. 310b and 326 it is pointed out that the current ½d., 3d., 6d. and 1s. "have a minute dot in the centre of the spaces between the stamps in the horizontal rows." Mr. E. Heginbottom sends us specimens of the ½d. and 3d. in which dots are also visible between the stamps in the vertical rows. Another authority, confirming this discovery, says that in the ½d. and 3d. stamps "he finds the 'dot' on all four sides, though often cut out by the perforations, but that he can find no 'dot' except at the sides in the 6d. and 1s. values."

This is going rather into minutiae, but these marks, like also the different gums used, help to determine the printings, which in these modern New Zealand stamps have been many and complicated.

Mr. Heginbottom also points out that the Catalogue omits to list the ½d. Life Insurance stamp with "mixed perfs.," and sends us a used copy which apparently is genuine.



37a



91

1909. Type 37a. Wmk. Type 4x. Perf. 14.
283a| 2d., reddish purple.

LIFE INSURANCE STAMPS.

1904. Type 91. Wmk. Type 4x.

(c) Perf. 11 and 14, mixed.

672| ½d., bright purple.

Nicaragua.—In examining our stock we have found copies of Nos. 1011, 1019, and 1031 of our Catalogue in which the surcharge shows a broken "d" used instead of the figure "o" in "10" or "50," as the case may be. This variety is quite distinct.

We have also found a used copy of the 5 c. of the 1899 issue perforated 6 instead of 12 horizontally. The perforation is absolutely clear.



14

1899. Type 14. Smooth thick paper.
Variety. Perf. 6×12.
154a| 5 c., deep blue.

Paraguay.—Monsieur Th. Champion has shown us a new provisional, and *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (13.3.09) listed a similar thing in grey; we have not seen the latter, but we describe them both below.



42b

1908
45

Habilitado

42a

UN CENTAVO
46

Type 42b overprinted "Habilitado—1908—UN CENTAVO—" in four lines, viz. with Type 42a in black, and Type 45 in red, and surcharged with Type 46 in black.

192a| 1 c. on 1 p., black and orange.
192b| 1 c. on 1 p., slate.

Perak.—Mr. H. Manus has shown us a copy of the 24 cents Official stamp, formed by overprinting a stamp of the 1868 issue of Straits Settlements, watermarked Crown C C, "P.G.S.", with a wide space between the letters "G." and "S."



5a

P.G.S.

21

1890. Type 5a (of Straits Settlements) overprinted with
Type 21, in black.

Variety. (iii.) Wide space between "G" and "S."
216a| 24 cents, C C, green.

Persia.—In remaking our stock book of the country we have found several unchronicled varieties as follows:—

To follow No. 301d—

(vii.) Variety. Double impression of stamp.
301e| 2 ch., red-brown.

To follow No. 334—

334a| 5 kr., yellow.

To follow No. 337—

337a| 50 kr., red (with tall "0").

To follow No. 338c—

338cc| 2 kr., olive-green.

To follow No. 338d—

Variety. (vi.) "PERSANS" for "PERSANES."
338e| 3 ch., deep green.

To come above No. 344—

343a| 3 ch., deep green.

Turkey.—Mr. Sydney A. Kemp has very kindly sent us information of several varieties of perforation which were not included in our Catalogue; we reproduce the list below. Mr. Kemp also tells us that he has the 20 paras and 1 piastre of the 1908 (March 22) issue perforated exactly $13\frac{1}{2}$, the former being in a block of four. In the Catalogue this perforation is given as "Perf. compound of 12 and $13\frac{1}{2}$," which is perhaps not wholly accurate. The perforation would seem to be similar to that of the 1905 issue, which is listed as (a) Perf. 12, (b) Perf. $13\frac{1}{2}$, (c) Compound. It is just possible that the 1908 issue will have to be similarly divided in some future edition of the Catalogue.



23

1905. Type 23.

(b) Perf. $13\frac{1}{2}$.

234a| 5 par., yellow-buff.

238a| $2\frac{1}{2}$ piastres, purple.

238b| 5 , brown.

(c) Perf. compound of 12 and $13\frac{1}{2}$.

239a| 5 par., yellow-buff.

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VOL. IX.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

Guatemala—continued

THE next two issues were in some measure the forerunners of those arising out of the famous Seebeck contracts with Central and South American republics from 1890 onwards. The ingenious gentleman named had already been distinguishing himself by his supplies of the "hardy annuals" to Bolívar from 1882 to 885, but it is not recorded if any mutual arrangements had been made with respect to the "remainders."

According to an article by Mr. Henry L. Calman in the *American Journal of Philately* (1888), it appears that—

"In 1886, Charles Parker, an engineer, employed by the Guatemala Government, suggested to the President of the Republic the advisability of having postage stamps of a higher value than 0 c., the largest denomination then in use. The suggestion was immediately seized upon as a good one, and Parker was authorized to have a new issue made for the Government. In order to carry the idea into immediate execution, the stamps used for tax on railroad coupons were utilized for the manufacture of provisionals, pending preparation of the new issue.

"At the same time it was agreed with Parker, that as soon as he would deliver the authorized new issue, in stated quantities, to the Government, he was to receive as compensation all stamps of the 1881 issue and of the surcharged railroad and stamps remaining unsold in the hands of the government on the date of such delivery of the new stamps."

The stamps utilized for the provisionals were those issued for collection of taxes on the coupons of the "Ferro Carril del Norte" (Northern Railroad) and were of the face value of 1 peso. They show a portrait of M. Rivera Paz, the first President of Guatemala. He was the nominee of Carrera, an uneducated Indian of low birth, who rose to be the strong man of Guatemala, and who proclaimed the country an independent State in 1839. Paz remained in office until 1845, when Carrera himself took over the reins of government and, except for a brief interval in

1849, exercised dictatorial powers until his death in 1865.

The decree authorizing the issue is dated February 12, 1886; it mentions the evident need of higher values, and curiously enough, the 100 c. is described in it as 1 *piastre*, an echo of the old Spanish nomenclature.

Five new values were created, the overprint of the three lower being set up in blocks of fifty (ten horizontal rows of five), and that of the two higher in blocks of twenty-five (five horizontal rows of five). In the former the figures of value alone were altered according to the value which was to be printed; in the 100 c. the word "Guatemala" is printed in two different types, the lowest row being in thicker lettering. The overprints for the 100 c. and 150 c. are similar, but differ in details of the ornaments. There were several printings and the sheets contain numerous errors. The stamps were issued May 6, 1886, but how many were left for Parker has not been stated; a tidy few, no doubt, judging from present prices.



Correos Nacionales



150 c. 150 c.

Guatemala

150 c. 150 c.

150 Ctavos.

May 6, 1886. Surcharged in black. Perf. 12.

	Unas.d.	Used.
	s.	d.
25 c. on 1 p., vermilion	0	1
50 c. on 1 p. , "	0	2
75 c. on 1 p. , "	0	3
100 c. on 1 p. , "	0	4
150 c. on 1 p. , "	0	4

Parker apparently performed his part of the bargain very well, for an official advice dated June 19, 1886, is full of his praise. This advice smacks somewhat of an "ad-

vance advertisement" and would very well serve as a model for a press-agent. Part of it is worth quoting:—

"It ought to be said that Mr. Parker has exercised great taste in the choice of colours, a task not so simple as it appears when eleven colours are in question, and these have to be quite distinctive. As regards the design we note with pleasure that our friend Mr. Parker has omitted no detail to render it effective and of the highest class. The steamboat, the locomotive, the quetzal, the whole, in fact, is a most perfect piece of work. The allegory appears to us in excellent taste, representing as it does the progress of the country, and at the special request of Mr. Parker we are asked to state that it is the original idea of Dr. Emile de Léon, the Postmaster-General."

There had been no secret about the transaction, for on February 11 previously an official notice was published giving full particulars of the bargain.

The stamps were manufactured by the American Bank Note Co., New York, being lithographed on white wove paper by transfers from an engraved die. The set is certainly a handsome one, and the stamps worthy of the reputation of the printers. Apropos of the quetzal in the design, it would seem that it is an appropriate emblem of liberty, for the bird will not live in captivity. Mr. Parker provided two millions of these pretty pictures—250,000 1 c., 150,000 2 c., 500,000 5 c., 300,000 10 c., 200,000 20 c., and 100,000 of each of the higher values—and they were put on sale July 1, 1886.

As a natural result, the stock of the 1 c. was soon exhausted, and as a temporary means of supplying the demand the Government surcharged 70,000 of the 2 c., and these provisionals were put on sale November 12, 1886. In the meantime the Government requisitioned a new supply of the 1, 2, and 5 c. stamps, but ordered them to be engraved instead of lithographed. These made their appearance in April, 1887, and were of the same type and on paper similar to the previous issue. The stocks of the higher values lasted much longer, and they were only replaced by the engraved stamps as they became exhausted. Thus the 10 c. did not appear till 1892, the 20 c. in 1893, and the 25 c. in 1894. The 50 c., 75 c., 100 c., 150 c., and 200 c. only exist lithographed. For general collectors it is hardly necessary to divide these sets, and in the list following the cheapest price, mainly that of the engraved, is quoted. For those collectors who care to divide the sets a general test for distinguishing the lithographed stamps from those printed in *taille-douce* is by the surface, which is white on the lithographed and slightly tinted on the engraved. On the latter the top four lines of shading stand out clear from the rest, especially on the left.

The numerals also differ slightly; on the engraved stamps the "2" of the 2 c. is somewhat thinner; the "10" of the 10 c. is slightly higher and more spaced; and on the 25 c. the curve of the "2" and "5" is more pronounced than on the lithographed.

There are, however, two distinct 5 c.'s which ought to be collected. The lithographed and first engraved stamps have a thin figure, but this type was superseded in 1888 by stamps with a numeral considerably thicker. The illustrations below are sufficient explanation.

A new value, 6 c., was introduced at the end of 1894, and is conveniently included in the list with the other values, though previous to its issue a provisional 6 c. had been made. On January 6, 1890, the *peso* of Central America was fixed by a monetary conference as = \$2.0698 Central America = \$1 United States, equivalent to about 2s. English. In consequence postage on ordinary letters required a higher denomination, and in 1894 the 5 c. Guatemala was demonetized and replaced by the new value, 6 c.



(Thin figure.)



(Thick figure.)

1886-94. Lithographed or engraved. Perf. 12.

	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
1 c., pale blue . .	0 1	0 1
2 c., brown . .	0 2	0 1
5 c., purple (thin figure) —	—	0 1
5 c., violet (thick figure) 0 3	0 1	
6 c., mauve . .	0 3	0 1
10 c., red . .	0 4	0 2
20 c., green . .	0 9	—
25 c., orange . .	1 0	—
50 c., olive-green . .	1 6	—
75 c., rose . .	2 0	—
100 c., deep brown . .	2 6	—
150 c., blue . .	4 0	—
200 c., yellow . .	4 0	—

PROVISIONAL

1886

I

UN CENTAVO

November 12, 1886. As last, surcharged in black.

Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
1 c. on 2 c., pale brown . .	0 3 —

As mentioned above, a 6 c. provisional had been made, previous to the supply of the regular type. It made its appearance about April, 1894, and at the same time, there being a shortage of 2 c. and 10 c. stamps, provisionals were created for these denominations. For the 6 c. a supply of the 150 c. was surcharged in red; for the 10 c. two values were utilized, viz. 75 c. surcharged in blue-black, and the 200 c. in blue or blue-black; whilst for the 2 c. the 100 c. was similarly surcharged to the last-named. The true colour of the latter surcharges was very deep blue, but owing to unequal mixing of the ink they often appear as blue-black. There were two types of numerals for the date, and the figures "1" of the value vary in thickness.

In Central and South American countries a great many 1 c. stamps are used at the end of the year for postage on New Year greeting cards. The Guatemalan authorities, finding themselves short of this value in 1894, authorized by a decree dated December 21 a quantity of the 2 c., engraved, the stock of which had now been replenished from New York, to be surcharged "1 c." The surcharge was similar to that on the above-mentioned provisionals, but this time in black.



(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Stock Books, and are, therefore, the Prices at which Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., will have pleasure in supplying any of the stamps that may be needed by any of our readers.

Topical Notes

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

A Pleasant Holiday

AS usual, I try to take my holidays when the worst weather may be expected in England, and I was lucky enough to escape the snow and frost of March, as I left England on March 3, crossed France by rail to Marseilles, and there joined the R.M.S. *Dunottar Castle*, of the Union-Castle Line, for a cruise round parts of the Mediterranean.

We called first at Ajaccio, in Corsica, the home of the great Napoleon; from there crossed the Tyrrhenian Sea, passed Stromboli and through the Straits of Messina; we

1894. Stamps of 1886-94. Surcharged in blue, blue-black, black, or red.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 c. on 2 c., pale brown	0 2	0 2
2 c. on 100 c., deep brown	0 6	0 4
6 c. on 150 c. , blue	1 0	1 0
10 c. on 75 c., rose	1 6	1 6
10 c. on 200 c., yellow	1 0	0 9

The supply of 1 c. provided above was not enough, for on January 14, 1895, a decree was issued advising the issue of the 5 c. (thick figure) surcharged "1 c." in red. There were three settings of this surcharge, and they are so different that collectors need to take all.



I. II.

1
CENTAVO

1895

III.

January 14, 1895. Stamp of 1888 surcharged in red.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 c. on 5 c., violet (I.)	0 1	0 2
1 c. on 5 c. , (II.)	0 2	0 2
1 c. on 5 c. , (III.)	0 2	0 1

went in close to the town, and saw most clearly the terrible havoc worked by the earthquake, both here and at Reggio.

Proceeding across the Ionian Sea, we reached the Piraeus the following day, and had a most enjoyable two days in Athens.

We then rejoined the ship, crossed the Aegean Sea, passing many of the Cyclades Islands, and in a couple of days reached Constantinople.

Here we were lucky enough to see the Selamlik, with capital views of the old Sultan; some days were spent in sightseeing, and then a trip was made up the

Bosphorus to the entrance to the Black Sea. We then returned through the Dardanelles, and three days later reached Haifa, in the Holy Land ; from here we visited the Sea of Galilee, Magdala, Tiberias, Cana, Nazareth, etc. ; then rejoined the ship, and called at Jaffa, and then on to Port Said. We managed to get a little over a week in Egypt, and were able to see Cairo, the Pyramids, Luxor, Karnac, and one of the great Barrages. We then returned to Alexandria and sailed to Crete, where we stayed at Candia, and put in a day at the wonderful ruins of Knossos. From there we returned via the Straits of Messina to Naples and Pompeii, and then finished up a grand trip at Marseilles.

I went entirely for a holiday, and did not look up any stamps, except such as were used for postage.

For any one who is fond of the sea I do not think a more enjoyable trip for five or six weeks of the worst of our winter is possible than the one I have so briefly outlined.

The "Nankivell" Collections

THE executors of the late Mr. E. J. Nankivell have placed all his stamp collections in the hands of Messrs. Glendining and Co. for sale by auction without reserve.

The collections consist of five specialized lots of Transvaal, New Zealand, China, etc., and a fine lot of modern stamps in most perfect condition.

In the Transvaals there are some grand things that have never been sold previously at auction. Amongst others I noted a superb mint pair of the "Viljoen"-printed 1s., yellow-green, on thick, hard paper, yellow, streaky gum, and printed *tête-bêche*. This is an exceedingly rare thing, and I doubt if more than one other such pair is known.

The stamps of *The First Republic* are very numerous and fine, and include some grand varieties. I hope that as many as possible of the late Mr. Nankivell's friends will attend this sale and bid liberally for the stamps.

Death of Mr. William Moser

DURING my absence I learned with very great regret of the death of my old friend Mr. William Moser, of Dresden. About two years ago Mr. Moser visited Japan, and while there he had a very severe attack of typhoid fever. He recovered his health sufficiently to enable him to leave the country, but he was never again the same man, and he passed away early last month from heart failure.

Mr. Moser was an American by birth and hailed from Rowantown, Conn. On account of his health he was obliged to leave the United States, and eventually settled in

Dresden, where, at the time of his death, he was building himself a beautiful home, which was nearly finished.

Mr. Moser was known to many English philatelists both personally and also by his magnificent collection of Japanese stamps, which he showed at the International Exhibition held in the Royal Horticultural Hall in London in 1906. That collection was a marvel of arrangement and gave proof of an enormous amount of study; it was regarded generally as being the best written-up collection in the Exhibition. The small minor differences in the plate varieties had been redrawn on a large scale by Mr. Moser in a marvellous manner, so that even a beginner could appreciate the differences due to retouching and other varieties on the plates.

It is said that Mr. Moser was a stamp collector from the early age of six years. During the twenty years that I knew him he was certainly a keen student and one of the foremost philatelists. He was extremely fond of the early local stamps of the United States and he lent me some of his rare varieties, which I reproduced in the *Monthly Journal* some years ago. In those stamps he had one or two things which were quite unique. In the Paris Exhibition of 1900 Mr. Moser was awarded a gold medal for his magnificent exhibit, which included his grand collection of Buenos Aires. On that occasion the Committee of the Exhibition awarded him a special silver medal "as evidence of their good feeling for his services in connection with the Exhibition." Mr. Moser acted as a judge at the International Exhibitions held in Berlin, at The Hague, and in Milan. His colleagues on those juries always found his knowledge of immense assistance and freely at their service. He was one of the most genial men that one could meet, and while I feel that we have lost a brilliant philatelist, I deplore the loss of such a kindly man.

Sudden death of Mr. Crofton

IT was with sincere regret that I saw the announcement in *The Daily Telegraph* of April 26 of the death from cholera of Mr. C. S. F. Crofton, which took place at Ahmednagar, Deccan, India.

Mr. Crofton was the only son of the late Major Crofton, R.A., and was in the Indian Civil Service. At the time of his death he was magistrate and collector of Ahmednagar and was only thirty-six years old.

Mr. Crofton passed through Trinity College, Cambridge, with honours and showed every promise of rising to a high position in the I.C.S.

As a philatelist he is well known to many of my readers. He was a joint author, with Messrs. Stewart-Wilson and Hausburg, of

the monumental handbook on the stamps of India, the portion dealing with Telegraph stamps being chiefly written by him.

In the absence of Mr. Wetherell from India he edited *The Philatelic Journal of India*, and only a few weeks prior to his death had resigned the editorship in favour of Mr. Wetherell.

Mr. Crofton was a great collector of Fiscal stamps, especially those of the native Indian States, but he also took a great interest in many of the byways of Philately, and contributed many well thought-out articles to the *P.J. of India*.

His loss will be a great one, especially to the earnest body of stamp collectors forming the Philatelic Society of India, of which he was a leading member.

Description of New Stock Books arranged and priced recently

Baden, Bergedorf, Bremen, Brunswick, and Hamburg.

THE stamps of the old German States continue in good demand, and the last set of stock books were soon cleared out of the fine copies, rare postmarks, etc. We have, however, been making some advantageous purchases of these stamps, and have now a very fine lot of all the German old issues.

The *Baden* include a few of the early issues unused and a good lot of all the later issues.

Bergedorf are an exceptionally good lot, and include a set of uncut sheets, amongst which the $\frac{1}{2}$ and 1 sch. are seldom offered.

Bremen are strong, both used and unused, and include some nice strips of stamps showing various types.

Brunswick is specially strong in early issues, *unused*, there being some choice things here also in the rouletted and *perce en arc* varieties.

Hamburg a fine lot, including fine blocks with gum, and in the used a lot of really rare obliterations which are now so much sought for abroad.

Nicaragua.

Three very fine stock books of this country have been arranged, and the greatest care has been taken to weed out all *reprints* and doubtful stamps. Our New York office, with the kind aid of several friends, has most carefully studied these Central American stamps, and the result is that we are now enabled to clear out many stamps that have been proved to be reprints, and to arrive at a just valuation of the true originals.

Collectors will be surprised to find how rare many of these originals really are, and I think I can safely predict a considerable rise in value of very many of these stamps as soon as collectors begin to appreciate the difference between the old and rare originals and the New York reprints.

British Guiana.

A fair book of this popular country has just been rearranged and is well worth inspection. The really rare stamps of this country are kept in small books, which will be submitted to collectors on demand.

Alwar, Bamra, Bhopal.

A very good book of these three districts has just been rearranged. It contains a number of sheets, uncatalogued varieties, and a fine general selection.

The Postage Stamps of Belgium—*contd.*

By CH. DE BONT

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(Continued from page 316.)

ISSUES OF 1900.

The 10 centimes, carmine.

FOLLOWING on the Postal Congress of Washington, the States forming the International Postal Union adopted uniform colours for the values corresponding to 5, 10, and 25 centimes.

The carmine 10 centimes stamp was issued on January 1, 1900; every year until March, 1905, several printings took place, producing a total of 486 million copies.

Exceedingly good ink was used, and the printing was carefully carried out. The following are the chief shades:—

Rose, pale carmine, bright carmine, and on the thin laid (or striped) paper used during 1904-5 deep carmine.

The plates showed signs of wear after a time, causing the following varieties:—

“BELGIOUE,” instead of “BELGIQUE.”
“ZONDAS” , “ZONDAG.”

And other minor varieties of lettering.

ISSUE OF APRIL 1, 1900.

The following ministerial decree authorized the issue of the 1 franc stamp in a different colour, and also notified the public that in future the 1 and 2 francs stamps would be printed on white, untoned paper:—

“POST OFFICE.	TELEGRAPHHS.
NO. 378.	NO. 438.

“Concerning the colours of the 1 and 2 francs postage stamps.

“PURSUANT to paragraph 2 of the Royal Decree dated June 9, 1884, authorizing the

Minister of Public Works (actually Minister of Railways, Posts, and Telegraphs) to determine the colours and dates of issue of stamps and postal franking formulæ in general:—

“AND HAVING CONSIDERED the decree dated May 15, 1893, fixing the colours of various postage stamps:—

“The Minister of Railways, Posts, and Telegraphs

“DECREES:—

“1. The 1 and 2 francs postage stamps shall in future be printed on white, untoned paper, in orange and *lilac* respectively.

“Brussels, March 31, 1900.
(Signed) “J. LIEBAERT.”

The 1 franc stamp.

There were four printings of this stamp, comprising 270,000 copies:—

First printing.—Bright orange. This stamp is quite rare, even in a used condition; unused it is worth about 8s., and even at that price it is not to be found in many dealers' stocks.

Second printing.—Rather a paler shade of the above; the impression is not so clear.

Third printing.—Still paler in colour; the paper is much thinner than that used for the above-mentioned printings; parts of the impression can generally be seen on the back.

Fourth printing.—November, 1904. Very pale, dull yellow on thin, laid paper.

The 2 francs stamp.

The issue consisted of 140,000 copies, split up into three distinct printings:—

First printing.—Pale *lilac*.

Second printing.—Pale *violet*.

Third printing.—Bright *lilac* (Feb., 1904).

All printings were on ordinary wove paper, because when the time came for a fourth printing of the 1 franc on the transparent, laid paper, the stock in hand of the 2 francs was large enough to go on with.

ISSUES OF FEBRUARY 20 AND
MARCH 20, 1894.

Special postage stamps were issued during the International Exhibition held at Antwerp in 1894.

The following decrees authorized the new stamps:—

“MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, POSTS, AND
“TELEGRAPHHS.

“ADMINISTRATION OF POSTS.

“LEOPOLD II, KING OF THE BELGIANS.

“To all who are present, and to those to come:—

“GREETING:—

“IN PURSUANCE of paragraph 40 of the law of May 30, 1879, authorizing the Government to issue postage stamps, and to determine the period of their availability, etc.

“AT THE REQUEST of Our Minister of Railways, Posts, and Telegraphs:—

“WE HAVE DECREED AND DO DECREE:—
“1. During the International Exhibition, which will take place, in 1894, at Antwerp, special postage stamps shall be issued, bearing the Arms of that town. These postage stamps will be available in exactly the same manner as ordinary postage stamps.

“2. Our Minister of Railways, Posts, and Telegraphs shall determine the design and values of these stamps, as also how and where they shall be sold, and how long they shall be available, and all other details necessary to the execution of this decree.

“By the King. “Given at Laeken,
“The Minister of Public “October 31, 1893.
Works, Posts, and “LEOPOLD.
Telegraphs.
(Signed) “J. VANDENPEEREBOOM.”

“The Minister of Railways, Posts, and Telegraphs:—

“PURSUANT to the Royal Decree dated October 31, 1893, commanding a special issue of postage stamps during the International Exhibition to be held at Antwerp:—

“DECREES:—

“1. The above-mentioned postage stamps will be inscribed ‘1894—ANVERS—ANTWERPEN—BELGIQUE—BELGIE.’ They will also be provided with a detachable label inscribed ‘NE PAS LIVRER LE DIMANCHE—NIET BESTELLEN OP ZONDAG,’ the use of which is set forth in paragraph 1 of Our Decree dated May 15, 1893.

“2. The values and colours of the stamps will be as follows:—

5 centimes, green on *rose*.
10 “ blue on *rose*.
25 “ carmine on *blue*.

“3. The above-mentioned stamps will be sold and may be used under the same conditions as apply to ordinary postage stamps during the period for which they are available; they will cease to be available on December 31, 1894.

“4. These stamps will be issued on the day the Exhibition opens.

“Brussels, November 2, 1893.
(Signed) “J. VANDENPEEREBOOM.”

“THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, POSTS, AND
TELEGRAPHHS.

“ADMINISTRATION OF POSTS.

“Concerning the issue of postage stamps portraying the Arms of Antwerp.

“THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, POSTS, AND
TELEGRAPHHS:—

“HAVING RECONSIDERED Our Decree dated November 2, 1893, respecting the issue of stamps bearing the Arms of Antwerp:—

“DECREES:—

“1. The above-mentioned Decree shall be modified in that the colours and the dates of issue of the said stamps will be as follows:—

5 centimes, green on *rose*; February 20, 1894.
10 “ carmine on *blue*; March 20, 1894.
25 “ blue on *rose*; March 20, 1894.

“Brussels, January 14, 1894.

(Signed) “J. VANDENPEEREBOOM.”

(To be continued.)

The Stamps of the Ionian Islands

Their True Status

By W. WARD

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THE three Ionian stamps, the ideal group for any collector in these days of long lists of new issues, provisionals, and commemoratives, are no doubt passed over by most collectors as being far too simple for research.

The greatest charm about them is that they are nearly three generations old, and are "extinct species" never to be resuscitated.

Their apparent simplicity and limitation to three varieties have prejudiced the specialist to such an extent that very little is known about either political or postal affairs and status of this late British Protectorate.

A certain incident some time ago awakened my interest in these stamps, and led me to think that perhaps collectors know less about them than they might.

Turning to the Catalogue, we find three values allotted as "halfpenny orange, penny blue, and twopenny red," and it is the purpose of my article to question this.

To start at the beginning, the group in question consists of the islands of Corfu (the chief), Cephalonia, Cerigo, Paxo, St. Mura, Ithaca, Zante, and several other more or less islets hardly worthy of any special mention. All are situated in that portion of the Mediterranean known in ancient Greek mythology as the Ionian Sea, off the southwest coast of Turkish Albania and the coast of Greece.

In 1815, following the downfall of "the Little Corporal," these islands were placed, by the Treaty of Paris, under the protection of Great Britain, together with the district and seaport of Parga in Albania—the whole henceforth being called the "United States of Ionia"—and *not* a republic, as one Continental writer states. True, until being given over to the French in 1797, they had been a sort of republic, a relic of the fifteenth-century Republic of Venice. Four years after being made a British Protectorate, the continental territory was returned to Turkey.

During the British occupation the form of government was similar to that now enjoyed by the Manx people.

The reigning monarch was represented by a Lord High Commissioner sent from England, who resided in the capital—Corfu. His Lordship had at the same time a concurrent position as Commander-in-Chief of the British troops, which to the number of about 3000 garrisoned the islands.

The Legislative Assembly consisted of some forty members, the Speaker of which, nominated by the Home Government, together with five others nominated by the ordinary members, formed a High Senate of six.

Another eleven formed the Primary Council, somewhat similar to our own Cabinet—being appointed by the Lord High Commissioner.

The whole of the members, excepting only the Chairman or Speaker, were chosen by the electoral body of each island in proportion to its population.

As to the people themselves, of a total population of about a quarter of a million, four-fifths belonged to the Greek Church section of Christianity under the leadership of an Exarch, an office similar to the Protestant Primate or Catholic Cardinal.

Excepting about five thousand of the Jewish faith and a few British residents, the rest consisted of Roman Catholics, under the headship of an archbishop. Those belonging to the Greek Church were of Greek and Albanian descent, whilst those of Rome were of Italian extraction.

The association of these islands of Ionia with Great Britain by no means ceased in the early sixties, for an official visit was paid to them as late as 1906 by the King and Queen. The latter, by the way, owns private property in the island of Corfu, in partnership with her brother, the King of the Hellenes.

In the fifties trouble was again in the making, arising out of a political agitation for union with Greece. In 1858 the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone was sent as a special High Commissioner on a pacific mission, armed with various powers to that end.

For once the G.O.M.'s efforts were to no purpose, meeting with great resistance on the part of the leading Ionians. He almost immediately returned home—no doubt to more congenial work. Before so doing, he arranged for the provision of a regular currency, which never came into proper existence, and a postal system that did.

The result of Gladstone's mission was that the British Government, after much controversy, resolved to cede the islands to Greece, in the event of that country finding a sovereign in the place of Otho, who had abdicated.

It was some time before the settlement actually took place and had a satis-

factory issue, the "deeds" being signed in London on May 30, 1864. The British still maintain a Consulate.

One of the first questions to be settled was that of the coinage. Previous to 1820, Greek, Turkish, and Roman coins had been in use in the islands. In that year the British bought up all the copper and silver currency in circulation, which was sent home. In return was promised a complete set of both copper and silver coins, but it is with regret I record that the British never kept their promise. It is to be feared that those who were in authority at Corfu at the time did not use their position solely for the public welfare, and it may safely be said that had we had proper representatives in Ionia we should to-day be able to count other possessions in the Mediterranean Sea besides Gibraltar, Malta, and Cyprus.

After much procrastination and fear of trying the temper of the Ionians too far, a single-value coin was sent out to Corfu. This was called an *oboli*, and was fixed by the Government at the value of a Turkish piastre, but only nominally. Very shortly after its advent the value dropped to something like its true value, that of about three-quarters of a Roman *bajocco*, or the Neapolitan *grano*. The coin itself was inscribed "IONIKON KRATOS" on the obverse, whilst on the reverse appeared Britannia seated with the "furious" Lion of St. Marc at her feet. At the time of its issue the coin caused some trouble among the anti-British, and there were many, it being represented that the Lion meant Ionia submissive under the feet of Britain.

In the postal emission the Ionians were more fortunate. During the latter part of 1858 (not 1859, as in the Catalogue), the well-known and finely executed set of three stamps was issued. They were engraved, and of a neat, modest design, the head of Queen Victoria enclosed in a buckled strap, or more correctly a garter, on which the name of the Protectorate appeared in Greek characters.

None of the stamps bore a numeral, or signified a postal value.

It is now that I come to the real question in doubting the existing authorities on these stamps. As will be seen from evidence I have procured, my summary of the true history of the Ionian Islands stamps is by no means mental deduction, but conclusive proofs drawn from existing archives.

It seems that up to the present the entire information upon these stamps is drawn from Continental authorities. No one here seems to have troubled much about these stamps, perhaps, as I have already said, on account of their alleged simplicity. For years the true knowledge has lain under our very noses, but we have preferred to go to a

foreign clime for information, verily an importation of coals to Newcastle. To show the value of some statements of a Continental writer a good many years ago, I will quote a few lucid tit-bits of his research. First, "The money used at this time (1859) was still the Spanish *piaster*, equal to 10 *oboli*." Spanish! I met a lady of mature years on the Continent last year who told me a similar cock-and-bull yarn about the "picturesque Spanish in Malta." "Spanish in Gibraltar, but *Italians* in Malta," politely corrected, but was told she had been there and *seen* them. Another quotation "In order to induce the inhabitants to use postage stamps, half the postage only was charged on letters prepaid by means of a stamp." Rather a Hibernian way, this, of saying that letters unfranked would be charged double postage due. [Mr. Ward is a bit hypercritical here. Prepayment was not compulsory, and the fact stated by the earlier writer is quite true. Other countries adopted the same methods to induce the public to prepay letters, notably France where different rates of postage were exacted for "prepaid" and "to pay" letters—ED. G.S.W.] Another, "the stamps bear the head of Queen Victoria, who was *protector of the Republic* at the time." Can any one verify the italics? Most of us remember this great Queen, and are acquainted with her likes and dislikes—but republics were certainly not included in the former. As the K.C. said, "My lord, here we have a witness who has proved to your lordship's satisfaction that his statements are not to be relied upon, so how are we to know that but what the whole of his testimony is far from the realms of solemn truth? It is conclusive, m'lud!"

Let us turn to another European philatelic authority, who says, and throughout his article alludes to the stamps as being sold in exchange for the Ionian *oboli*—or, as called by some English numismatic works, *obole* in the singular (though, in fact, the word is similar to many ancient terms, correctly having no change in its plurality). The writer referred to calls the yellow stamp one the blue two, and the red four oboli.

But whence came the information that the red stamp carried greater value than the blue? All British Empire stamps of that date were red to signify penny, and blue twopence, as instance Great Britain, New South Wales, and others.

Why should a change be made in the case of such a small colony, especially as I shall show later, no particular instructions as to colour were given to the printers—the famous firm of Perkins Bacon and Co.?

But we philatelists are notoriously conservative, and as a rule blindly follow the beaten track.

I claim no abnormal display of activity in the matter, but becoming interested in such a simple country, I just investigated information nearest to hand and easiest to get at. This I got with the greatest of courtesy from Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co., who not only gave me what I requested, but interested themselves in the matter and dug deep into the dust of years for old records, warrants, and communications in relation to these stamps.

This, their one and only history, faces the light of the world once more. The stamps were ordered by the Lord High Commissioner, Sir G. H. Bowen, his secretary signing the request. On receiving the order, which was for the red and blue stamps *only*, Messrs. Perkins Bacon noted that the values of the respective stamps did not appear upon the sketched suggestions for design, and accordingly wrote on June 8, 1858, to the Secretary of the Lord High Commissioner, drawing his attention to the point, and assuming that the stamps were not to have the denomination engraved on them, but to be only known by the difference of colour. They also added that they could place figures of value as a watermark without making extra charge for the moulds. This was agreed to. It may be seen from the last Continental authority quoted, and also from records of these now Grecian islands, that

at the time both the oboli and English coinage were in concurrent circulation, and more than probably the omission of the value upon the stamps was perhaps from a fear that the face-value might be taken in error. To have prevented this, the example of the Canadians could have been followed, viz. the inscribing of both home and sterling values together.

But Messrs. Perkins Bacon find from their records that the red stamp represented one penny, and the blue twopence; the former they watermarked with the figure "1" and the latter with the numeral "2," in confirmation of their suggestion, which was accepted by the authorities. They can only trace the values of the red and blue stamps, but assume the yellow was for one halfpenny. This would be correct, though the stamp would be officially counted as one oboli—a coin of same value, for by this time, 1858, its true value had come to be assessed at about a halfpenny English currency, though originally palmed off on to the Ionians as being worth twopence-halfpenny.

Curious to relate, there is a record of a charge for a watermark for the yellow stamps appearing in Messrs. Perkins Bacon's books, but for some reason or other the watermark was not made use of. Unfortunately, the record does not state the exact form of this non-issued watermark.

(*To be continued.*)

Chili

By CHAS. M. C. SYMES

(Continued from page 317.)

BEFORE I make mention of the stamps printed by the American Bank Note Company, I should like to draw attention to the employment of half-stamps. Their usage came about by the scanty supply of stamps supplied to far-distant post offices. Previous to 1861, little care had been taken in the equal distribution of values, and invariably post offices ran short of the lower value, and in order to supply the public the higher value had to be bisected. By allowing the half-stamps to be used, there was naturally a certain amount of fraud going on, and the Government, recognizing this, issued a circular in 1861 informing the public that in future sufficient supplies would be kept at all post offices, and therefore it would be unnecessary to divide the stamps. This had no effect except that all letters bearing divided stamps were charged for by the Postmaster, who naturally did not recognize the bisected stamps. This led to many complaints, and a further circular issued January 7, 1862, informing the public that, though the use

of bisected stamps was quite unnecessary, it did not impose any penalty on persons using same. A circular of such mild terms proved ineffective, as it is unnecessary to say. The stamps in question were mostly divided diagonally, though occasionally specimens have turned up cut horizontally. It has been stated that the 5 c. has been found bisected, but, as no postal rate to the value of $2\frac{1}{2}$ centavos was then in vogue, I cannot vouch for the authenticity of the statement.

During the last fourteen years the stamps had been somewhat irregular, especially in regard to the watermark, and thus we see that from 1867 and onwards no stamps bear watermarks of any kind whatever. However, up till 1867 all stamps had been rouletted, and as perforation was more generally in vogue in other countries, the American Bank Note Company of New York were authorized to perforate their first series of stamps for Chili. The design adopted by the new manufacturers was somewhat similar to that of the Perkins Bacon type, but not nearly so attractive. The new stamps arrived early in 1867, and were circulated

throughout the country immediately on their arrival. The stamps were printed in sheets of 120, but I have not been able to ascertain



the exact quantities printed; as, however, the new stamps lasted for a period of ten years, it seems reasonable to suppose a fairly heavy printing took place. The stamps were perforated 12, but have no variation. The paper upon which these stamps are printed is found in four shades, namely, yellowish white, yellowish, greyish white, and white. Of these the yellowish white may be deemed the commonest. There are also three degrees of thickness, which may be termed ordinary, thick, and very thick; the latter is extremely rare, and is not often met with, whilst the stamps on thick paper are somewhat difficult to acquire—the ordinary, of course, is common. This issue marks the entry of a new value, the 2 c., whilst the 1 c., 5 c., 10 c., and 20 c. are still retained. There are some very nice shades to be had of this issue, the orange-yellow being particularly favourable.



No change of issues happened until 1877, when the New York firm were again the recipients of a further order for a new set. For this new set the design was changed completely, yet it still retained one portion of its predecessors—the head of Columbus. The new design is a fairly attractive one, though it cannot be called handsome. It will be noticed that perforations did not come up to the expectations of the officials, for again the roulette is reverted to. The stamps are printed in sheets of 100. In this issue we have the inclusion of the 50 c. value in mauve and violet. In the former colour the stamp is catalogued at 7s. 6d. mint, and in the latter colour at 1s. 6d. To make the latter colour the former, place an entire sheet in the sun for a short time, when the transference will take place both in colour and in price.

In 1881 a further supply of the 1 c., 2 c., and 5 c. was received from New York. The chief differences in this fresh supply are the

change in colour of the 1 c. from slate to green, the 2 c. from orange to carmine, and that the label which crossed the figure of



value of the 5 c. of the 1877 issue is now removed. Two years hence the 5 c. appears in a new colour, being changed from rose to ultramarine; a further two years brings us the 10 c. in orange, a change from its blue attire in 1877, and in 1886 the 20 c. came out in the scene in a dirty slate-grey costume, much deficient in appearance from its previous colour, green. The 50 c. had died a natural death. The roulette was again adopted in this issue of 1881-6 in preference to perforation. In these two issues a handsome arrangement of shades may be formed, and altogether make a very attractive show if arranged scientifically. The Government suddenly became aware of the fact that stamps of other denominations were necessary, and thus we see four new values struck in 1892. The new values were 15 c., 25 c., 30 c., and 1 peso, and, as before, emanated from New York. The three former values were printed in sheets of 100, but I have no definite information as to the size of the sheet of the 1 peso stamps; the stamp being of a large size, it is very probable that they were printed in sheets of 50. The design of the first three stamps is the same as that of the two previous issues.



The 1 peso stamp may be termed handsome; the design is enclosed in a rectangular frame 27 mm. x 33 mm. The profile of Christopher Columbus is seen bearing to the left, enclosed in a circle, and immediately above is a label in which appears the inscription "COLON." Each side is adorned with pillars; the left reads "100-CORREOS-100", and the right "PORTE FRANCO", and from the bottom of the circle downwards is a large figure "1" denoting the value of the stamp. From each of the top sides of the numeral extends a tablet to the bottom

orners of the stamp, bearing the word "PESO", and there is a label under the numeral in which is inscribed in large type "CHILE." The two tablets bearing the inscription "PESO" finish up with a little fancy work, which extends in close proximity to the pillars, and two five-pointed stars occupy the two top corners. There are one or two minor varieties in this stamp which I purpose describing, and which I may say are often met with, yet perhaps they may not be known. The normal variety is the head of Columbus exactly above figure "1", and hading above the head full. The following are the differences noticed:—

1. Head of Columbus bearing slightly to the left of figure "1".
2. Head of Columbus bearing slightly to the right of figure "1".
3. Head of Columbus above figure "1" with three-quarter shading.

I have mentioned these slight variations

to a well-known philatelist, who contended that they could not be admitted as varieties on account of its being impossible when printing bicoloured stamps to avoid a slight slipping in the second colour. However, I differ from him in the fact that whether the slipping is unavoidable or not, if the result is a product differing from the normal stamp, then the differentiation must be termed a variety. The stamps of this set are fairly scarce in mint condition, the 1 peso being especially so; they are all fairly common when used. I have found much trouble in getting the 1 peso in blocks; pairs seem easy to obtain, but to acquire this value in blocks of four and of larger dimensions is a great difficulty. In 1894 a re-engraving took place of the 1 c. and 2 c. of the 1881 issue, in which the scrolls were removed from each side of the base of figure; this constitutes the only alteration.

(To be continued.)

The Proposed Encyclopaedia of Philatelic Literature

By A. J. PALETHORPE

OWING to the fact that I was obliged to leave Manchester before the Philatelic Congress assembled for the evening session on Saturday, February 20, I was deprived of the opportunity of replying verbally to the criticisms that were offered by the delegates on the paper which I read on the above subject at the afternoon session. I had, as the Chairman explained, anticipated these in part, and I dealt with them in a page of supplementary notes, which was kindly read on my behalf by Mr. Darlow. There were, however, other criticisms offered which are of equal importance to the subject which I had not foreseen, and which are entitled to a reply; and with the editor's permission I now propose to deal with these *seriatim*. Considering the comprehensiveness of the subject, the views that were put forward were well expressed, and are interesting and instructive.

Mr. Lane Joynt indulged in a joke at my expense when he expressed his fear that the proposed Encyclopædia would almost rival in length the Chinese annals. I can assure him that if there were a possibility of this happening it would appal even myself, for, when one comes to think about it, 3900 volumes would be a trifle too many. I may, however, say that several scientific and learned societies of the first importance are at the present time carrying out precisely similar work. Here, then, is a precedent for us. If these societies, some of whose earliest records are

of great antiquity, dating back for many centuries, can undertake to epitomize the whole range of literature relating to their particular sciences, surely we philatelists, who have only some fifty years or less of literature to deal with, will not allow ourselves to be dismayed because we cannot on the first view of the subject decide upon ways and means. It is always easy to raise difficulties, and criticism is, at first, in nearly all human undertakings, destructive rather than constructive.

Mr. Lane Joynt further asks, "Who is going to buy it—the Encyclopædia?" And I propose to revert to this question again.

The next speaker, Mr. Barnefield, referred to the Philatelic Society of India's volume, *The Postage and Telegraph Stamps of British India*, by Messrs. Hausburg, Stewart-Wilson, and Crofton, published at 40s.

When this excellent work was reviewed in *The Philatelic Record*, September, 1907, a suggestion was put forward in an editorial note that important books of this nature, which are of necessity expensive, should be brought out in, say, shilling or half-crown parts, the editor further remarking that "anything which tends in the direction of further popularizing works of this kind is, in our opinion, worthy of trial." That suggestion coincides with my own view exactly, so that if I have erred in proposing that the Encyclopædia should be issued in parts, at least I have erred in good com-

pany; and my further reply to Mr. Lane Joynt is that the philatelists who would buy the Encyclopaedia are those who buy the handbooks which are appearing to-day.

Mr. Duerst referred to Krötzsch's publishing venture of Leipzig, but I think that that is by no means a parallel case. Krötzsch's publications dealt with the stamps of the States of Germany, and their circulation was certain to be limited for obvious reasons. Probably outside the German Empire there is not a large number of philatelists who are interested in those stamps, and it is equally certain that outside of the German-speaking world of philatelists, at least, the circulation of Krötzsch's publications would be very small indeed, especially at a time when philatelic literature claimed considerably less attention than it claims to-day.

Mr. Darlow drew attention to the need that is generally felt for collaboration in philatelic literature, and incidentally remarked upon the importance of plates in philatelic publications, with which I am quite in agreement.

I now turn to Mr. Beckton's criticism, and I regret that in preparing the paper I did not make it sufficiently clear that, without wishing to narrow the comprehensiveness of the scheme, I had no intention of suggesting that anything should be attempted in advance of acquired knowledge. It would be quite impracticable, in my opinion, to specially undertake research for the proposed work on countries that have not been written up. There is an abundance of material without, and the best we could do would be to deal with such countries in supplementary volumes as the knowledge

upon them was brought to light. Another point was raised by Mr. Beckton, who said "I don't agree with Mr. Palethorpe when he says that the handbooks are not accessible to the general body of collectors." That however, is not quite what I wished to convey. Some, at least, of the handbooks are accessible to them. I also purposely drew a distinction between standard works and handbooks for the purposes of my paper and in referring to standard works, although I did not specifically mention them, I had in mind at the time of writing such works as, *The Postage Stamps of Switzerland 1843-62*, published at £6; *A History of the Postage Stamps of Sicily*, English translation Library Edition published at 30s.; *A History of the Adhesive Stamps of the British Isles* and *Supplement*, published at 24s. and 2s. 6d., and similar publications, which, I venture to say, are not, as a matter of fact, accessible to the general body of collectors.

Most of the speakers appear to have overlooked one point, and a somewhat important one, which, however, was observed by Mr. Gibson, who, after I had completed the reading of my paper, said, "You want an epitome, I take it?" I replied, "Yes"; and that is the form which, in my opinion, the Encyclopaedia should take. The debate has, I think, made one fact abundantly clear and that fact is that there is a general interest taken in the subject and its importance realised; in short, that it is necessary for something to be done. Given, then, a good working Committee of Editors and complete organization of the enterprise at the outset, I am still of opinion that the project could be carried to a successful conclusion.

Forged Colonial Stamps

ON Saturday, May 1, before Mr. Curtis Bennett, the charge against Stewart Lowden and Henry Harmer in connection with forged British North Borneo stamps was resumed.

Mr. BODKIN said he wished to supplement his opening on the last occasion. He now proposed to charge the defendants with a conspiracy contravening the provisions of the Post Office Act of 1908, which came into force that day. The Act was in substitution of the Post Office Protection Act of 1884, and it was Section 65 of that Act under which he proposed to charge the defendants. That section made it an offence for a person to have in their possession without lawful excuse a fictitious stamp and to knowingly utter, deal in, or sell any fictitious stamp. That section dealt not only with British stamps but stamps of any foreign country, and he would submit that the evidence would

disclose a conspiracy between the defendants under that section. When he opened the case he was dealing with it from the point of view of indictable offences, and while it was an offence by the laws of this country to make any fictitious stamp or imitation stamp under the Post Office Protection Act, it was an offence which was not indictable but was to be dealt with summarily. The offence of forging a stamp as an indictable offence in this country was only provided for by the Stamp Duties Management Act of 1890, Section 13, and that only dealt with stamps of Great Britain. As the stamps in question were not those of Great Britain there could be no charge of indictable offence under the Act of 1890, nor could there be any charge of indictable offence for forging stamps of countries other than Great Britain because the Post Office Protection Act made those offences summary offences in

ead of by indictment, and when on the last occasion he said that there was no offence if forging stamps other than the stamps of Great Britain, he was dealing with it as an indictable offence as distinguished from an offence to be dealt with summarily. British North Borneo was in the Postal Union and subject to the Rome Convention of May, 1906, and certainly in this country here was not a shadow of a doubt that any making of fictitious stamps or dealing with them improperly would come within the provisions of the Post Office Protection Act, and be a criminal offence in this country.

Mr. H. G. FORBES, recalled and examined by Mr. Bodkin, said he wished to correct his previous evidence that since the 1894 issue came into force there had been no issues of the previous series, 1887 to 1889. He found that two orders were given, one in July, 1894, and the other in October, 1894. The first order was for stamps ranging from $\frac{1}{2}$ cent to 10 cents and the second order was confined to $\frac{1}{2}$ cents. The two reprints or, as he should term them, orders were sold to Mr. Parker. He also wished to say that the stamp used in cancelling the stamp was brass and not rubber. Witness then produced three stamps of the 1886 issue—1 cent, 2 cents, and 4 cents—which denoted Postage only. He also produced other stamps of the 1887 to 1889 issue which he had handed to Inspector Stockley. The State of British North Borneo was, he said, in the Postal Union, and for the purpose of its government, the Company had adopted the Indian penal code, which included as offences the improper use or manufacture of stamps.

Cross-examined by Mr. Frampton, witness said he could not say positively that the two printings in 1894 were done entirely for Mr. Parker, but he should think in all probability they were. Mr. Parker had been a large buyer of stamps for several years. He would ascertain whether stamps had been sold to anybody else.

Chief Inspector STOCKLEY detailed the results of his search at the premises of the two defendants. He said that at Harmer's premises on a table he found a large quantity of British North Borneo stamps, 1, 2, and 4 cents, Postage only. Upstairs in a room which was furnished as an office he found a large quantity of British North Borneo stamps—840 1 cent, 19,000 2 cents, 2560 4 cents, all of the 1886 issue. They were mostly in sheets of fifties. He also found a quantity of other British North Borneo of the 1894 and 1896 issues—1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 12, 18, 24, 25, and 50 cents. Also some 1, 2, 5, 10, and 25 dollar stamps. There was also a quantity of British Honduras, South African, Costa Rica, Philippines, Porto Rico, Hayti, Cuban, and Orange River stamps. He took possession of a letter-

book and some correspondence. At Lowden's premises in Villiers Street he made a thorough search in his presence. He found a large quantity of British North Borneo stamps of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 16, 24, 25, and 50 cents of various issues. Also some British North Borneo of 1, 2, 5, and 10 dollars, and some 1 dollar stamps with a surcharge printed on. In a cupboard he found a quantity of the 1887 issue, which he had since examined and counted. They consisted of 11,530 $\frac{1}{2}$ cent, 12,400 1 cent, 15,735 2 cents, 8350 3 cents, 8837 4 cents, 13,150 5 cents, 12,346 6 cents, and 2,161 10 cents, etc., in all a total of 92,490. He also found twenty-four sealed envelopes, each containing one hundred stamps made up of stamps of the $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 8 cents of the 1887 issue. There were also twelve other envelopes, each containing a series of the 1887 issue, $\frac{1}{2}$ cent to 10 cents. On the table in the front office he found a large number of approval sheets. The number on the approval sheets related to a number in a book which he also found, and in the book he found the names and the addresses of certain persons to whom the sheets had been sent and the dates endorsed on the sheets. Each of the approval sheets contained a number of stamps, including those of the North Borneo Company, both of the 1886 and 1887 issues. On the morning of the 14th he attended at the office again and saw a lady clerk apparently dealing with the morning delivery of letters. Among the letters were several approval sheets which had been returned. In the office he also found three stamp albums, all containing Borneo amongst other stamps. He took possession of a quantity of foreign stamps of substantially the same countries as the stamps he found at Harmer's, viz. South African, etc. He found a number of old cheque-books containing cheques made out to René Carême, and which had his endorsement on. Some of the cheques were signed by Harmer and some by Lowden. Altogether by cheques and bills he traced £131 5s. 9d. as having been remitted by the West End Stamp Company to Carême as between November, 1907, and May, 1908.

M. CALCAS, sub-brigadier in the French police, deposed to searching the premises of René Carême at 110 Avenue d'Orléans, Paris. In the shop he saw preparations for printing, perforating, and gumming stamps, also lithographic stones. The French police seized a quantity of material, among other things a perforating machine, also an instrument for stamping the cancellation marks on stamps, and some lithographic stones. He also seized several thousands of the nine different kinds of North Borneo stamps. He had brought some of the stamps to this country and had handed them to Inspector

Stockley. A quantity of correspondence was also found on the premises, including a number of letters, some signed by Harmer, some by Herbert Mack, and others by Herbert Mack and Co. He found stamps of foreign countries in process of manufacture, amongst others British East African, Central African, Costa Rica, Fiji, Hayti, Venezuela, and Honduras. Witness then

spoke to searching the premises of M. Lamot, Rue Robillere, where, among other things, they seized a number of lithographic stones which contained representations of the same stamps that were found at Ren Carême's.

The case was again adjourned for a week, the defendants being admitted to the same bail as before.

Our South African Letter

NYLSTROOM, TRANSVAAL,
March 19, 1909.

CLOSER union is the war-cry at present, and every member of Parliament, whether English or Dutch, holds meetings and informs his constituents of the blessings which closer union, namely, a United South Africa, will bring. I am in the midst of the trouble; in fact, it is only a few hours ago that I, as chairman of the local meeting, in which a Cabinet Minister and our local M.P. held forth in gushing language the beauties of union, put the plain question, "Are you for or against?" Personally I am against union; experience has taught me that oil and water will not mix. I smile when I hear of the great saving we are going to have in future. We have now got five Postmaster-Generals and five different sets of Postage and Revenue stamps; under union we are going to have only one P.M.G. and one set of Postage and one set of Fiscal stamps. "What a saving!" they say, quite forgetting that the new postage is to remain at the present rate of 1d. per half-ounce, and that the cost of printing the stamps will not be noticeably reduced against present cost of printing five sets, and that instead of present five P.M.G.'s there will be five assistant P.M.G.'s at same salary as the present office carries, and that the P.M.G. for the Union will be an extra office at a larger salary.

For us collectors it will not be of much advantage; the single set of stamps for United South Africa will certainly be of the cheap and nasty type, against which the present double-colour printed stamps of Transvaal, Natal, and Orange River Colony will certainly be nice-looking pictures. The loss of four sets of stamps some other new colony outside of South Africa will make up by new issues, so that the benefit will not be very great as quantity and quality go.

The only benefit I can see is that the present five colonies of South Africa will each close their individual philatelic history, and like the British North American Colonies of pre-Canadian Dominion will be relegated to the finished or completed groups whose stamps are now becoming "classic."

Events in South Africa move quickly, and it is generally the unexpected which happens. It is not yet ten years ago that we had a big war here and a good output of stamps more or less unnecessary; now we are in for only one necessary issue. I take it that the Postage Due and the Official stamps will be dropped as neither are really required, and it is only Transvaal which has got Due stamps.

This reminds me that I have as yet not been able to find out the use of the ½d. Postage Due stamps. We have no postal rates of ½d., and what has brought the ½d. value into existence is a mystery to everybody whom I have asked up to now and who ought to know.

Truly we have a ½d. rate for newspapers but this is only applicable to those newspapers which are posted in bulk of not less than 240 directly by the publishers; for the public this rate does not exist, it has to pay ½d. for each copy of a paper it sends away.

It may as well be recorded here that the postage on the newspapers posted by the publishers is paid in cash at time of posting and that thus each paper gets cancelled with a handstamp in red, reading: "Paid, Town and Date," some with value ½d., some without; some read: "Town, Paid" only. The use of the higher-value Due stamps is rather restricted; the 5d. and 6d. values one sees occasionally, but the 1s. value hardly ever in fact, the whole issue is not used much, and as I explained in a former letter, not necessarily at all.

On December 31, 1908, the war issues V.R.I. and E.R.I. stamps ceased to be valid for postal purposes; any still remaining in the hands of the public could be exchanged for current stamps. I have not been able to find out yet if anybody has taken advantage of this generous offer.

There has been some talk of forgeries of V.R.I. and E.R.I. stamps. I only know of those which were done during the war in the State Printing Office by printing the correct type on *used* stamps of the Z.A. Rep. 1896 type, but of those supposed to have been done in the *forged* type I have never met with a specimen. Of the Z.A. Rep. 1896 issue unused there is practically none in the

ublic hands ; all were sold during the war to the troops, and to use the cancelled stamps, of which even the 1d. value is not obtainable in quantities of hundreds or thousands, would hardly pay and be easily detectable. The Railway stamps overprinted "C.S.A.R." are hardly met with nowadays ; the issue was not large of ½d. and 1d. values, and of the higher values very limited.

acquired a vertical pair unused of 1d., single watermark, with *double* surcharge, both correct ; the foot of the first surcharge touches the top of the second surcharge, and proves clearly that at least one sheet must have been run twice through the printing press. These stamps are collected locally only, and even then not by everybody, because they are not catalogued. This shows again what power a catalogue has, and also that were the catalogue compilers united

about weeding out unnecessary stamp issues, they would be more powerful than the defunct S.S.S.S. was. Collectors will listen to everything printed about or against certain stamps, but will not touch anything which interferes with their cash idea ; it also proves that £ s. d. has often more to do with stamp collecting than is openly acknowledged. Before closing this letter I wish to inform the would-be speculator in current South African issues that the United States of South Africa will not come into existence before the end of 1910, and that the first Parliament will only meet in 1911. There is thus plenty of time to start speculating, especially when one looks at the Commonwealth of Australia, which as yet, after being united for years, has no special stamps of its own, leaving aside the Due stamps ; therefore do not be in a hurry.

E. TAMSEN.

New Issues and Discoveries

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Albania.—In our issue of March 20 we listed certain Italian stamps surcharged for use at Durazzo, Janina, Scutari, and Valona, and we

DURAZZO
4 PIASTRE 4

SCUTARI
DI ALBANIA
4 PIASTRE 4

now learn that in each case the 4 and 20 piastres were in block type, as illustrated above.

Argentine Republic.—Mr. Hugo Griebert has shown us the variety described below :—



1890. Type 52 surcharged with Type 56, in red.
Variety. Surcharge double.
116a ½ on 12 c., deep blue (R.).

Congo State.—With reference to the 1898 issue of Parcel Post stamps, numbered 113 and 114 in our Catalogue, we are informed that the printers were Messrs. Waterlow Bros. and Layton, and not Waterlow and Sons, Ltd., as stated in the Catalogue. It follows that the perforation should be described as 14, instead of 12½ to 15.

Costa Rica.—Mr. H. A. Cresswell has shown us a 5 c. stamp of the current issue perforated 11½ x 14 instead of 13½ to 15, as is given in the Catalogue. We have inquired into the matter, and find that the printers of the 1907 issue are

not Waterlow and Sons, Ltd., but Waterlow Bros. and Layton, and that consequently the description given of the perforation, viz. 13½ to 15, is incorrect ; it should be described as 14.

As regards the 5 c., we find that a machine gauging 11½ was used for the horizontal perforation during a short time, and it is just possible that the 1 c. and 10 c. were also run through the same machine.



1900. Type 46. Centre in first colour.
Variety. Perf. 11½ x 14.
to 5 c., indigo and orange-buff.

Dominican Republic.—Mr. Hermann Focke has shown *Meekel's Weekly Stamp News* (17.4.09) a new value of the Postage Due set.



1909. Type 71. Perf. 14.
403a 6 (c.), sepia.

Gibraltar.—We are indebted to the *Colonial Office Journal* (4.09) for the information that this colony has agreed to adopt the new colour scheme, and that the following stamps have been despatched:—

To be issued shortly on chalky paper.
*6d., dull and bright purple.
2s., purple and bright blue on blue.
4s., carmine and black.

* This value does not appear to differ as regards colours from the one now in use, but *perhaps* there has been some slight change.

BRITISH P.O.'S IN MOROCCO.—Mr. Roskilly informs us that he has a strip of three of the 25 centimos, multiple watermarked stamps, showing the variety of overprint with broad top to the "M" of "Morocco."



8

Morocco Agencies

23

1905-6. Type 8 of Gibraltar, but with value in Spanish currency, overprinted with Type 23 (variety, broad top to "M"), in black. Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

65½c., purple and black on blue C.

Honduras.—In our issue of April 10 we listed the 1 c. lithographed, and *The Philatelic Advertiser* (26.4.09) now reminds us that *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* has mentioned three more values. As we have not seen these we cannot vouch for the colours.



22

1909. Type 22. Lithographed. Perf. 14.

- 130| 5 c., blue.
- 141 10 c., sepia.
- 142| 20 c., bright blue.

Jamaica.—We have been shown a copy of the 2s. Queen with multiple watermark, to which we referred in our issue of April 17.



9

1909. Type 9. Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A. Perf. 14.
60c| 2s., red-brown, O.

Mauritius.—A correspondent has supplied us with a copy of the 25 c. which we listed in our issue of January 30 as being with *multiple* watermark. On February 20, we stated that according to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* the stamp had the *single* watermark, but the paper was surfaced. The watermark was very hard to see and we could not make absolutely certain, and so left the matter open.

The copies we have now received make it certain that the watermark is single, so we must ask our readers to delete our chronicle of January 30.



36

DECEMBER, 1908. Type 36. Wmk. Crown C.A., Type w. 6. Value in second colour. Perf. 14.
154| 25 c., green and carmine on green, C.

Natal.—A correspondent has shown us the four new stamps to which we referred in our issue of May 1, these being in accordance with the new scheme, but, for reasons already given on *ordinary* paper. Touching the question of paper, we find that we have made a curious mistake in the Catalogue in listing the 2s., 5s., and £1, Nos. 168, 170, and 172; these are described as being on *surfaced* paper, but as a matter of fact they are on *ordinary*. We shall be glad if our readers will kindly make the correction.



34

1908-9. Types 33 and 34 (5s. to £1). Centre in first colour. Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A., Type w. 8. Perf. 14.

- 166 6d., dull and bright purple, O.
- 167 1s., black on green, O.
- [168] 2s., purple and bright blue on blue, O.
- 169 2s. 6d., black and red on blue, O.
- [170] 5s., green and red on yellow, O.
- 171 10s., green and red on green, O.
- [172] £1, purple and black on red, O.

New Zealand.—*The Philatelic Advertiser* (26.4.09) chronicles the 4d. with the new comb perf. 14×15, and also incidentally the 5d. large-sized stamp with a similar perf. Both these stamps were listed by *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* a few weeks back, but as we were doubtful about the 5d. stamp we did not chronicle it.

We made inquiries of Messrs. Bright and Son, and were informed that a 2½d. stamp had just been received with an undoubted comb perforation, very clean cut, gauging exactly 14½ all round. We think that there is no doubt that the 5d. was also perforated on this new machine.



27



30



39

1908-9 (?) Wmk. single-lined "N Z" and Star, Type 41.

(c) Perf. 14 x 15 (comb machine).

323a] 39 | 4d., blue and yellow-brown on bluish.

(d) Perf. 14½ (comb machine).

329] 27 | 2½d., deep blue.

330] 30 | 5d., black-brown.

Paraguay.—Our agent in Asuncion informs us that the 1 peso, Prussian blue, overprinted "1908," to which we referred in our issue of March 13, has been issued to the public, and he sends us a supply; we therefore list it as follows:



40

1908

47

1909. Type 40 overprinted with Type 47, in black.
1 p., Prussian blue.

Sierra Leone.—A correspondent has shown us four values which have been issued in accordance with the new colour scheme. At first sight the 6d. appears to be similar to the 6d., dull purple, No. 92 in the Catalogue, but that stamp is printed all in one colour, whereas the 6d. chronicled below is printed in two shades of purple.



10

1909. Type 10. Name and value in second colour.
Wmk. Multiple Crown CA, Type w. 8. Perf. 14.

107] 6d., dull and bright purple, C.

108] 1s., black on green, C.

109] 2s., purple and bright blue on blue, C.

110] 5s., green and red on yellow, C.

Tasmania.—From *The Philatelic Advertiser* (26.4.09) we learn that the 9d. has been issued on Crown and double-lined A paper, in the undermentioned varieties of perforation.



11

1908-9. Type 11. Wmk. Crown over A, Type 33.

(b) Perf. 11.

238] 9d., pale blue.

(c) Perf. compound of 11 and 12.

255] 9d., pale blue.

United States.—We have seen several copies lately of the three recently issued stamps illustrated here on a kind of bluish-white paper,



which is quite different from the creamy-white paper usually employed. This paper seems to give quite a different appearance to the colours of the stamps, so it may perhaps be of interest to some of our readers.

Victoria.—We have been shown a number of copies of the 2½d. Crown and double-lined A postage stamp perforated 11. According to our correspondent, only two sheets have been found, one of which was very incomplete when the discovery was made; it is thought that only about 200 copies of this variety were sold at the G.P.O., Melbourne.



62

1909. Type 62. Wmk. Crown over A, Type 77.

(b) Perf. 11.

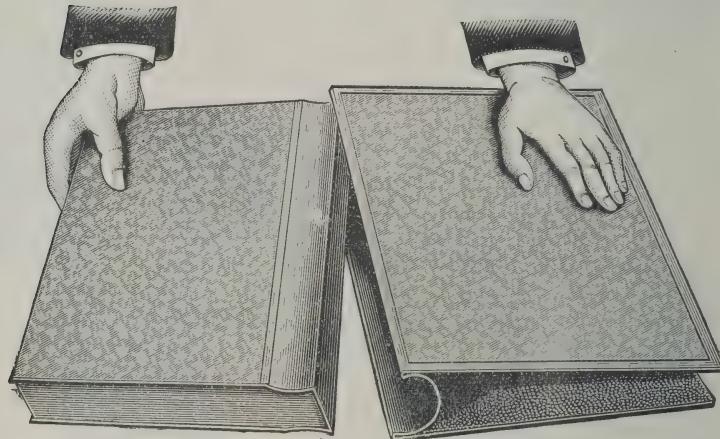
306a] 2½d., deep blue.

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STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED,

391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 21
Whole No. 229

MAY 22, 1909

VOL. IX.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

Guatemala—continued

A CENTRAL American Exposition was held at the capital, Guatemala, in 1897, for which great preparation was made and much money expended, but which was a dismal failure. To celebrate this, and incidentally, no doubt, to raise some funds, a commemorative set of stamps and postal stationery was prepared, which, according to a decree dated December 31, 1896, was to be put on sale January 1, 1897. The decree also stated that the stamps, etc., then in use would not be valid after January 4 until further advice. Notwithstanding much advertisement and the calling back of the old issues, the stamps did not sell freely, and when they were eventually demonetized (from January 1, 1898) there was still a large stock on hand. To try to effect a further sale some were overprinted for telegraph use in various ways, but with no appreciable reduction, and finally the remainders were by official notice of April 25, 1898, put up for public tender. The remainders varied from 1339 of the 18 c. p to 630,070 of the 10 c. (there were none of the 75 c. and 150 c.), and the latest day or offers was July 31, 1898.

The stamps were printed by the American Bank Note Co. of New York, in black, on surface-coloured paper, the 12 c. also being printed on paper coloured all through. The work is not up to the usual standard of this firm's production, probably because the Guatemalan people would not pay a high enough price. The stamps were probably photographed by transfers from an engraved plate.

The design embodies in the centre that of the previous issue, together with a portrait of the President, whilst in the four corners, commencing with the upper left, are displayed respectively the arms of Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica. The President portrayed is Reyna Barrios, who was elected for the period 1892-8. He was a nephew of President Rufino Barrios, one of the despots of whom the history of Central America furnishes so many types. His scheme for the confederation of the Central American States led to a war with Salvador. Invading that country,

Rufino Barrios was killed in an assault on Chalchuapa in 1886.

The administration of Reyna Barrios was enlightened and progressive. The first railway in Central America is due to his initiative, and he tried to improve the native education. The scheme for the Exposition was his, and its failure—combined with a law which he promulgated for the eligibility for immediate re-election of retiring presidents—led to a revolution, and he died by the hand of an assassin February 8, 1898.

It is said that the cost of manufacturing these stamps was much more than the price obtained for the remainders, which was £800.



January 1, 1897. Black impression. Perf. 12.

	Surface-coloured paper.	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1 c., lilac-grey	.	0 1	0 1
2 c., grey-green	.	0 1	0 1
6 c., orange	.	0 1	0 1
10 c., deep blue	.	0 1	0 1
12 c., carmine	.	2 0	—
18 c., white	.	2 6	—
20 c., deep red	.	0 5	0 5
25 c., grey-brown	.	0 2	0 4
50 c., russet-brown	.	0 2	0 4
75 c., azure	.	—	—
100 c., emerald	.	0 3	0 6
150 c., flesh	.	—	—
200 c., magenta	.	0 4	0 6
500 c., deep green	.	0 4	0 6

Paper coloured on both sides.

12 c., carmine . . . 0 4 0 4

When the old issues were put on sale again the stock of 1 c. was found to be low. Naturally the demonetized Exhibition stamps were brought to the rescue, and 200,000 of the 12 c. were surcharged, both sorts being employed and there being two forms of the surcharge. A quantity of the 2 c. was also surcharged, but with still a different overprint. Praiseworthy efforts, these, to dispose of the surplus, but there was still another,

viz. the overprinting of the 1 c. with "SERVICIO INTERNO" in brown-red. The Catalogue places this stamp under the head of "Official," but this is an error. The object of the overprint, if any, is to confine to local use a stamp that could in the ordinary way be used for Postal Union correspondence. There is a doubt, however, about the issue being in any way genuine. It has been said, and with some show of reason, that these stamps were the manufacture of a shrewd local speculator, who took advantage of the political disturbance at the time to manufacture and put them on the market. They can certainly be ignored by general collectors, and might with advantage be struck out of the Catalogue.



UN
CENTAVO
1898 1 UN
CENTAVO 1
1898

II.

January, 1898.	Exhibition stamps surcharged in violet or red.	Unused.		Used.	
		s.	d.	s.	d.
I c. on 2 c., black on green (I)	.	—	—	—	—
I c. on 12 c., black on carmine, surface-coloured (II)	.	—	—	0	1
I c. on 12 c., black on carmine, coloured through (II)	.	—	—	0	1
I c. on 12 c., black on carmine, coloured through (III)	.	—	—	0	1

The year 1898 saw quite a deluge of provisionals, and it is hard to understand why the authorities did not order fresh supplies of the missing values from New York. Perhaps the true reason was want of money. The finances at the time were in a deplorable condition, and the American Bank Note Co. insisted upon an uncomfortable practice of "C.O.D." The accusation of exploiting collectors can hardly be upheld, for the quantities in each case were so small and the value of the provisionals so low that a lucrative business was out of the question. An apologist for the stream of provisionals in the *Middledeutsche Philatelisten Zeitung* (1899) does not defend it, but points out that each issue was forced by the absolute want of stamps, and that the postal administration was sometimes quite at a loss what stamps to use for franking purposes. He adds:

"The continuous change of presidents, and consequently of all ministers and officials, in these semi-civilized countries has very much to do

with alterations of stamps. What one postmaster orders to-day his successor cancels tomorrow. Add to this the unsurmountable negligence and indifference of all officials, and one can have a slight conception of the conditions not only of the Post Office, but of all government departments. Not until they have come to the last sheet of any value does it dawn on the officials that a new supply will be wanted. Every one who has had occasion to live in such countries will have found that nobody thinks of the future the next day is the utmost limit that they look forward to or make provision for."

Anyway, provisionals were made, and will be convenient to divide them into three groups, according to class of stamps used, viz. Postage stamps, Square Fiscals (1898 issue), and Tall Fiscals (1898 issue), which also corresponds to chronological order. It will be noticed that the Fiscal stamps are described "TIMBRE," the French word for stamp, instead of "CORREOS."

Postage Stamps

On May 11, 1898, there is an official notice authorizing the creation of 100,000 each of 1 c. and 6 c. by surcharging the demonetized 5 c. of 1888. On July 1, 1898, the shortage of 1 c., 6 c., and 10 c. was again officially pointed out, and the creation of various quantities (stated in brackets in list below) of these denominations, by overprinting other values of the current type is authorized. The dearth of 6 c. continued, for 30,000 fresh provisionals were issued in September, 1898. As some of these were on the 10 c., a supply of the latter value must have been found or ordered from the printers. The latter seems probable, as in February, 1900, when the 1 c. was again wanted, 50,000 of this value were utilized.

The surcharges were printed in black and red, and with the exception of the 10 c. which has upright numerals, were of similar character, with sloping numerals of value. It has been mentioned that the 5 c. was in engraved type; the 2 c., 10 c., and 25 c. utilized were the same, but the other values were, of course, lithographed.

1898	—	1898	—
6	—	10	—
centavos	—	centavos	—

May-Sept., 1898. Stamps of 1886-94 surcharged in black.

	Unused.	Used.
	s.	d.
I c. on 25 c., orange (30,000)	.	0 2
I c. on 75 c., rose (50,000)	.	0 2
6 c. on 10 c., red (10,000)	.	0 6
6 c. on 20 c., green (20,000)	.	0 6
6 c. on 100 c., deep brown (20,000)	.	0 9
6 c. on 200 c., yellow (20,000)	.	0 9

In red.	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
c. on 5 c., violet (100,000)	o 1	o 2
c. on 50 c., olive-green (50,000)	o 3	—
c. on 5 c., violet (100,000)	o 4	—
c. on 150 c., deep blue (20,000)	o 8	—
c. on 20 c., green (20,000)	o 9	o 9

Some of the above seem underpriced, judging by the quantities issued. There are numerous varieties, but care should be taken to purchase them from responsible sources, as a warning was published in December, 1899, that many forgeries of these and also of the provisionals on Fiscal stamps were then circulating.

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Stock Books, and, therefore, the Prices at which Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., will have pleasure in supplying any of the stamps that may be needed by any of our readers.

Topical Notes

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

Recent Purchases

SINCE my last announcement we have purchased quite a number of important collections. Several of a general character did not contain anything of much use to add to our stock, and have therefore been disposed of *en bloc*. The following specialized collections may be of interest to some of my readers :—

Shanghai.

A superb and highly specialized collection, exceptionally strong in the old stamps of 1865, of which there are several hundreds, many being in long strips. The provisionals of 1873-7 are well represented, and include such rarities as the

1 c. on 3 c., orange-yellow (No. 62).
1 c. " 16 c., green (No. 55).
3 c. " 16 c. " (No. 58).
1 c. " 12 c., brown (No. 81).

United States.

A small collection of the older issues, amongst which I note 1869, 15 c. and 24 c., with the *centres inverted*, and a fine lot of the general issues in mint condition, including some rare things in the 1870 "grille issue."

Sicily.

A highly specialized collection, including embossed plates and many dozen "retouched" varieties. This collection has been sold *en bloc*.

Egypt.

A superb collection of the always popular stamps of this "British Protectorate" (!!). The collection was formed in Egypt by a gentleman in a high official position, and he was able to include a large number of Essays, Proofs, Errors, etc. that are not to be found in this country.

Unused postage stamps are included in all shades, and where possible in blocks of four; *used stamps* are shown with many varieties of postmark, and in all, this collection is one of the most interesting that we have had through our hands for a long time.

This collection will not be available for another month or more, as it has already been booked up to four specialists.

Mr. Fred Hagen

THE well-known Sydney dealer, expects to arrive in England early in June, and will probably stay some four months, and then spend two or three months on the Continent.

Mr. Hagen can be certain of a very hearty welcome, as I am sure that many of the collectors and dealers who have corresponded with him for so long will be glad to make his personal acquaintance.

The Amsterdam Exhibition

THE Committee of the Exhibition inform me that a post office will be opened in the Exhibition, where visitors can buy stamps and mail their correspondence. A special Exhibition postmark will be used.

The following hotels are recommended by the Committee :—

Amstel Hotel, close to the Weesperpoort Station.

Hotel de l'Europe.

Black's Doelen Hotel.

Hotel des Pays-Bas.

Hotel Victoria, opposite the Central Station.

American Hotel, near the Exhibition.

The first three are the dearer, and the two latter the cheaper.

The Golden West Stamp Exhibition

THE Junior Philatelic Society have to be congratulated upon securing a large amount of space in one of the bays of the Ducal Hall at the Earl's Court Exhibition, which opens on May 8, before this note is in print. The Exhibition will remain open until the end of September.

The exhibits will be confined to postage and revenue stamps of the United States and its colonies.

I hope to give more detailed notices of the exhibits, etc. in due course.

Description of New Stock Books arranged
and priced recently

Bavaria.

OUR stock of the early issues is much reduced, especially in fine used stamps, for which there is such a steady demand from Germany. The middle and later issues are all strongly represented.

Bundi, Bussahir, Charkari, Duttia, and
Hyderabad.

All these districts are well represented, and the book is a very interesting one, as it contains a number of curiosities and uncollected varieties.

The Postage Stamps of Belgium—contd.

By CH. DE BONT

(ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.)

(Continued from page 332.)
ISSUES OF FEBRUARY 20 AND
MARCH 20, 1894—contd.

THE three stamps composing this issue were redesigned by Mr. H. Hendrickx and engraved by Mr. V. Lemaire, of Ghent.



Looking at the stamp one notices the Arms of the town of Antwerp in the centre, above which is the Polar Star, surmounted by the word "ANTWERPEN"; in the upper corners is a head of Mercury on the left and the Belgian Lion on the right. Right at the top of the stamp is the date "1894," and on either side of the Arms is an inscription reading "BELGIQUE" on the left and "BELGIE" on the right; the word "ANVERS" also appears below the Arms. The value is shown in figures enclosed in a rectangular tablet in the two lower corners.

There is a detachable label below each stamp inscribed in two lines "NE PAS LIVRER LE DIMANCHE"—"NIET BESTELLEN OP ZONDAG" (i.e. "Not to be delivered on Sunday," in French and in Flemish).

There were two distinct printings of each of the three values forming this issue.

The 5 centimes stamp.

First printing.—Comprised 8,500,000 copies in two shades, viz.:—

Green on rose. | Green on bright rose.

Second printing.—3,800,000 copies, the colour being

Green on pale rose.

The stamps of the second printing are by far the rarer, not only owing to the smaller printing, but because they were sold by only a few offices about August, 1894.

The 10 centimes stamp.

First printing.—15,450,000 copies.

Carmine on bluish. | Carmine on greyish.

Second printing.—1,600,000 copies.
Carmine on pale azure.

The 25 centimes stamp.

First printing.—1,860,000 copies.
Blue on rose.
Blue on bright rose.

Second printing.—950,000 copies.
Blue on pale rose.

Before actually printing these stamps numerous essays were made in order to something really suitable for the occasion might be prepared. Thus small sheets are often seen containing one copy each of the 5, 10, and 25 centimes on differently tinted papers. Other small sheets are known, where there is only one value, either on plain or on tinted paper.

As a certain period only had been fixed by the Government, during which the commemorative stamps should be available for use, the following decree was promulgated by the terms of which the exchange of these stamps for others of the ordinary design was permitted at any post office:—

"POST OFFICE.
"No. 228.

TELEGRAPH
No. 261.

"Concerning the exchange of the 'Antwerp' Postage Stamps."

"THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, POSTS,
AND TELEGRAPHS:

"PURSUANT TO the Royal Decree, dated October 31, 1893, commanding the issue of postage stamps portraying the Arms of Antwerp, and ordering the Minister of Railways, Posts, and Telegraphs to take any steps necessary to the execution of the Decree:—

"AND HAVING CONSIDERED the Decree November 2, 1893, fixing the date on which these stamps shall cease to be available, viz., December 31, 1894,

"HAS DECREED:—

"I. The postage stamps showing the Arms of Antwerp will be admissible for exchange for ordinary postage stamps of the types now current in any post or telegraph office from January until February 28, 1895.

"Brussels, December 24, 1894.

(Signed) "J. VANDENPEEREBOOM."

(To be continued.)

The Charges against Stamp Dealers

The Alleged Forgeries of North Borneo Colonial Stamps

ON Saturday, May 8, at Bow Street Police Court, before Mr. Curtis Bennett, there was a further hearing of the charges against John Stewart Lowden, twenty-nine, stamp dealer, 20 Villiers Street, Strand; and Henry Harmer, thirty-nine, stamp dealer, 11 Preston Road, Westcliff-on-Sea, of conspiring to obtain money by fraud from persons buying from them, or from the West End Stamp Company, or Herbert Mack and Co., Ltd., stamps purporting to be issued for postage and revenue purposes in British North Borneo.

Mr. Bodkin appeared on behalf of the Director of Public Prosecutions; Mr. Curtis Bennett, instructed by Mr. Solomon Meyers, defended Lowden, and Harmer was represented by Mr. Frampton. Mr. C. V. Young watched the case on behalf of the Stamp Trade Protection Association.

Inspector Stockley, recalled, replying to Mr. Bodkin, spoke to finding four cheques or £718 5s. each drawn in favour of Carême in November, 1907; two drawn by Lowden and two by Harmer. Also a cheque for £15 16s. 10d. drawn by Lowden in December, 1907, and one for £23 15s. 3d. drawn by Harmer in January, 1908. He found in his books a number of cheques for large amounts between May, 1907, and August, 1908, drawn in favour of Parker, signed, some by Harmer and some by Lowden. The total of these cheques amounted to £2650. He also found seven or eight cheques for £5 each between May, 1907, and October, 1907, the counterfoils of which noted "Expenses for Harmer in Paris." There was also a cheque of July 24, 1907, drawn by Lowden for his travelling expenses in Paris. It would appear that both the defendants were drawing cheques for £3 each weekly.

Witness then spoke to finding a number of letters and telegrams which had passed between the defendants and Mons. Carême extending over a long period. He produced a number of British North Borneo stamps of the higher values—25 and 50 cents, and 1, 2, 5, and 10 dollars—which he had received from Mr. Forbes. The 1 dollar stamp was surcharged "FOUR CENTS," and the 5 and 10 dollar stamps were surcharged "BRITISH PROTECTORATE." He also produced a number of North Borneo stamps which were handed to him by Miss Pix at Lowden's office, and $\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 cents postage and revenue, and 1, 2, and 4 cents postage only. He also produced four envelopes containing sets of North Borneo stamps,

$\frac{1}{2}$ to 10 cents, and photographs of the same which he had received from Mr. Acland, Mr. Brown, Mr. Wallis, and Mr. Burgess. He also produced letters which had come from 152 Cheapside, the address of Mack and Co. He also found a post card from Muller and Co., of Hamburg, stating that the set of Borneo stamps Lowden had sent them were false, and asking whether he was willing to take them back or give them others in exchange.

Mr. Thomas Macdonald, a bank-note engraver, 6 Barnsbury Terrace, Barnsbury, said he designed and engraved for Messrs. Blades, East, and Blades. He designed and engraved the whole of the dies for the North Borneo stamps which were printed by his firm.

Witness was handed up specimens of the alleged forged stamps which he had previously examined, and said he was satisfied they were forgeries, and had not been printed from the dies which he designed and engraved.

One thing which led him to say that the stamps were not genuine was that they showed variations in size between themselves and between genuine stamps of the same kind. He should say they had been produced by means of a modern photo process from genuine stamps. The stamps in the approval sheets were also, in his opinion, forgeries.

Cross-examined by Mr. Curtis Bennett, witness said that the dies he had produced had either been in the possession of Messrs. Blades, East, and Blades or in that of the Borneo Company. As a general rule, after the stamps had been printed from the stone the impression would be cleaned off. He had no hesitation whatever in coming to the conclusion that the stamps in question were forgeries.

Mr. W. Cromack, lithographic manager of Messrs. Blades, East, and Blades, and Mr. H. W. Tyler, who is in charge of the paper department of the firm, gave corroborative evidence.

At the request of Mr. Curtis Bennett, the Magistrate directed that the stamps found at Lowden's premises, other than Borneo and Labuan, should be handed back to him, with the exception of a few of each which the police are to keep as specimens.

The further hearing was adjourned until Saturday, May 15, the defendants being admitted to the same bail as before—Lowden two in £1000, and Harmer two in £500.

The Herts Philatelic Society Annual Dinner

THE dinner of the Herts Philatelic Society has become one of the chief events of the year in philatelic circles, and usually takes place at the end of each session.

This year the dinner was held on Tuesday, May 4, at the Café Monico, in the International Hall, which had been lavishly decorated for the occasion.

Over a hundred members and guests were entertained right royally, a matter of certainty when the name of Mr. Harry L. Hayman, the Vice-President and this year's dinner chairman, heads the list of distinguished gentlemen responsible for the arrangements.

Amongst the guests and members present we noticed His Excellency the Chinese Minister, the Hon. W. Hall-Jones (High Commissioner for New Zealand), Baron A. de Worms, Messrs. J. Henniker Heaton, M.P., Morgan H. Young (Master of the Armourers and Brasiers Company), L. L. R. Hausburg, R. B. Yardley, A. J. Warren, J. T. Grein, Percy Ashley, M.A., R. Lane Joynt, H. A. Slade (Hon. Secretary), and many others.

Of the dinner itself little need be said, save that, if possible, it surpassed the efforts of previous years, and exemplified the excellent catering of this famous restaurant.

Just before coffee was served screens at one end of the room were drawn aside, and a large model of the famous "Dreadnought" was exposed to view. It was about three feet long, and constructed of white sugar and marzipan; the broadsides bristled with guns, composed of Chinese crackers, and a lively fusillade was kept up for some minutes. When the applause and the noise of the fireworks had subsided, the model was wheeled into the centre of the room and placed in front of the Hon. W. Hall-Jones, out of compliment to New Zealand.

The first toast was "The King," proposed by the Chairman, Mr. H. L. Hayman, whereupon the National Anthem was sung by all present, led by Miss Muriel Clark.

The second toast, also proposed by the Chairman, was "The Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, and the Royal Family." The Chairman referred to His Royal Highness being, as President of the Royal Philatelic Society, actively interested in Philately.

Later on the Chairman made the following speech :—

Your Excellency and Gentlemen,

It is now my pleasant task, on behalf of the Herts Philatelic Society, to propose the health of "Our Guests."

It has always been the good fortune of this Society to be permitted to welcome to its annual dinner not only representatives of other societies, both British and foreign, whose interests are akin to our own, but also distinguished members of that larger community which is interested only in the practical use, and not in the collection, of stamps. We welcome their presence, because we believe it to mean a recognition of the fact that the pursuit of Philately is something more than a recreation ; that it is a pursuit which, both on its social and on its practical side, is of real value to the whole community.

This evening we are particularly favoured by the presence of His EXCELLENCY the CHINESE MINISTER, the representative of a vast and ancient empire, whose long-enduring civilization, art, and learning we all admire and in whose well-being we in England must ever take deepest interest. In the person of His EXCELLENCY we honour one who is not only the son of a great statesman whose name is deeply engraved in the history of China and Europe, but one who is himself a distinguished diplomat and friend of England. His EXCELLENCY has a wide acquaintance with English institutions, but I believe this is his first visit to a philatelic society ; we are glad that it should be the good fortune of the Herts Society to introduce to his notice this fresh aspect of our national life.

His EXCELLENCY represents one of the most ancient nations of the world. We have also with us the representative of one of the youngest nations—one of the States which are growing up within the British Empire. Apart from his own record as a statesman and administrator, the High Commissioner for New Zealand comes to this evening with especial credentials. We know how the Dominion of New Zealand courageously led the way in the establishment of universal penny postage. We know also how recently that dominion has given a striking demonstration of the loyalty of the British Dominions over the seas to the mother country, and of the ready aid which they are prepared to give us—as they did in South Africa—in times of strain and stress. And we welcome the opportunity this evening of testifying to Mr. HALL-JONES our appreciation of the progress, the energy, and the loyalty of that distant colony.

We welcome in the person of Mr. HENNIKER HEATON, always a loyal supporter of the Herts Society—one who has done much to promote imperial and foreign trade by the reduction of the cost of communication ; and in the person of the Master of the Armourers Company, one who represents alike success in peaceful trade and readiness for war.

Others of our guests stand more especially and directly for the study to which our Society is devoted. Mr. DUNBAR HEATH must always occupy a special place in any gathering of philatelists, both as the bearer of a famous name—for is he not one of the same family as the engraver of the first British stamp?—and as the head of a firm whose renown has gone out into all lands. And distinguished collectors we have with us Baron ANTON DE WORMS, whose collection of Ceylon stamps is famous throughout the world ; Mr. WARREN, who is doubtless now rejoicing over the new issue in Holland : Mr. HAUSBURG, foremost among the collectors of Indians and Colonials ; and Mr. YARDLEY, of Transvaal fame.

This is not the place or time for me to speak of the serious side of Philately—of its technical interest, or of the manner in which it touches history and science, art and literature. I prefer this evening to emphasize rather its social value. It appeals to men of very diverse interests to men of all classes and of all nationalities. The network of philatelic societies and clubs which now covers the world must, I am convinced, be a potent means of promoting not only good feeling amongst its votaries in each country, but also that international goodwill which, in spite of strenuous rivalry and frequent set-backs, is yet making steady and sure progress.

The good fellowship which Philately promotes finds illustration in our representative and international gatherings to-night, and so I give you the toast of "Our Guests," joining with it the names of His Excellency the Chinese Minister and the High Commissioner for New Zealand.

HERTS PHILATELIC SOCIETY
SIXTH ANNUAL DINNER



H.A. Slade Esq.
Hon. Secretary



Henniker Heaton Esq., M.P.



His Excellency
the Chinese
Minister



Harry Hayman Esq.
Vice President
Chairman



Aton W. Hall Jones
High Commissioner for New Zealand

W.G. WENMYS

His Excellency the Chinese Minister responded to the toast with a most interesting speech, in the course of which he said that from ancient records it was known that there existed an important and well-organized system of posts in China so far back as a century before the Christian era, but as the postage was always paid by the addressee there was no need for the use of stamps. Their first issue in the Western sense of the word was not until 1878, and only three kinds of stamps were sent out by Shu Hsin Knau, but in the short period that had since elapsed the system had become very popular.

He concluded a most excellent speech with a reference to the Chinese Minister, with whom, he said, he had once nearly gone to the races ; he did not do so, however, as he was too well brought up (laughter), but he regretted it. (Cheers.) He hoped China, Britain and her colonies would all pull together for their mutual advantage.

The toast of the Herts Philatelic Society was proposed by Mr. J. T. Grein in a humorous speech, and was responded to by the genial Honorary Secretary, Mr. H. A. Slade, who said that, like George Washington, he *would not* tell a lie in saying that he was pleased to respond ; the thought



[Photo by Fradelle and Young.]

The Hon. W. Hall-Jones also responded to the toast, saying that years ago he had had a collection of stamps, but did not know what had become of it. To-night the social side of Philately had so appealed to him that he was about to start again, and should do so with the stamps of the British colonies . . . with Imperial stamps. (Applause.) He was most touched at the display of the model Dreadnought, and wished to assure everybody that there was nothing political about New Zealand's offer of one of those battleships, but that a suspicion, an unworthy suspicion, as to the supremacy of the British Empire on the seas, could not be allowed to form. He said that New Zealanders were loyal to the backbone, and were ready to prove their loyalty at no matter what cost.

doing so had almost spoilt his dinner. He referred to the work of the Herts Philatelic Society, and expressed a wish that all present would become members. (Cheers.)

The health of the Chairman was proposed by Mr. J. Henniker Heaton, M.P., who spoke about his dearest wish, viz. universal 1d. postage and 1d. telegrams ! The toast was drunk boisterously, amid the singing of "For he's a jolly good fellow."

Speeches having been disposed of, a photograph of the assembly was taken by Messrs. Fradelle and Young, a reproduction of which is seen on this page.

The next item on the programme was the entertainment arranged by Mr. Harrison Hill, the versatile Musical Director of the Herts Philatelic Society.

Miss Muriel Clark made her first appearance in public, her charming contralto voice being heard to great advantage in Barratt's ballad, "My Ships," every word being clearly enunciated. On being recalled with acclamation, Miss Clark gave that favourite old Wessex song entitled "My dear Zoul." The talented young musician was only allowed to leave the platform after repeatedly bowing her thanks for a justly-earned and enthusiastic reception.

Mr. Harrison Hill then gave one of his characteristic impromptus, which he stated had been inspired by the speeches that had just been delivered. The words were as follows :—

TUNE—"He(a)rts of Oak."

Come, cheer up, my lads, 'tis of Herts that we sing,
For the hearts of the Herts are all true to the King;
They welcome each guest from the East and the West,

From China, New Zealand—and all of the best.

He(a)rts of oak are our ships,

As the Dreadnought will tell,

She stands there all ready,

Steady, boys, steady!

We'll welcome our guests here again and again.

From China comes one whom we honour to-night,
The land of romance, and of beauty and light :
How ancient its history, Eastern its glow,
And China had postage in days long ago.

From that land comes to-night our illustrious guest.

Now, boys, are you ready?

Steady, boys, steady!

We'll welcome our guests here again and again.

New Zealand is loyal and true as of yore,
But we value her friendship as never before ;
The sons that she breeds are the finest of men,
And they'll send us a Dreadnought again and again.

He(a)rts of oak are our ships,

As the Dreadnought will tell,

Now, boys, are you ready?

Steady, boys, steady!

And we'll welcome Hall-Jones here again and again.

The impromptu was received with great applause, and Mr. Harrison Hill followed with another laughable sketch, in which the chief point about the chorus seemed to be that "we should stiffen our backs with an Income Tax of a shilling in the pound."

Mr. Ernest H. Mills showed some lightning sketches after Hassall, Tom Brown, Hardy, Dana Gibson, etc., and concluded with a design of a "Id. all the way" stamp, with an effigy of Mr. Henniker Heaton. Mr. Leslie Lambert having shown some marvellous sleight-of-hand tricks, the entertainment concluded with Mr. Harrison Hill's sketch entitled "The Miner in a Minor key," to the tune of "Clementine."

We cannot conclude this short report without reference to the menu cards, which bore on the cover a copper-plated representation of the first New Zealand stamp, in vermilion, the value having been removed from the lower label, and "H.P.S., 4th May, 1909" substituted. The engraving and printing were, of course, done by the original printers of the stamps, Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co., Ltd.

The evening was brought to a close about eleven o'clock by the singing of "Auld lang syne," members and guests alike all declaring that Philately was the best hobby going, especially when one belonged to such a go-ahead Society as the "Herts."

STAMPS AND STAMP COLLECTING. By Major E. B. EVANS

The young collector is frequently perplexed by the meaning of the various terms used in stamp collecting, and the fullest explanations of these will be found in this book.

2s. 9d. in Paper Cover, or 4s. 6d. strongly bound in Cloth.

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.,
391 Strand, London, W.C.

Chili—concluded

By CHAS. M. C. SYMES

(Continued from page 337.)

IN 1900-1 a further supply came to hand, which was of a much more pleasing design; as before, it is rouletted, and again we see the inclusion of the 50 c. value. In all, three supplies were ordered from Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, London, as follows :—

Supply I.

I c.	2,000,000	... 10 c.	2,000,000
2 c.	4,000,000	... 20 c.	500,000
3 c.	5,000,000	... 50 c.	500,000

This first supply is stated to have been ordered in May, 1899, but was not received



until the summer of the following year. It will be noticed that the afore-mentioned

stamps have no shading above the head of Columbus.

Supply 2.

1 c. .	4,000,000	...	5 c. .	8,000,000
2 c. .	4,000,000	...	10 c. .	1,000,000

From official information I gather that these stamps were ordered September 6, 1900, and arrived in the spring of 1901. The stamps, however, had been re-engraved, for it will be seen that shading now appears in the background.

Supply 3.

30 c. .	1,000,000.
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From the same source, I note that these were ordered in January, 1901, and arrived the latter part of July of the same year. The 30 c. value is described as a recut die, but as a matter of fact it exists only in the first variety of type. How this error occurred it is hard to say, unless it may be explained by the fact that all the plates were made when the stamps were first ordered, and it afterwards was found necessary only to give background to the four low values and print the 30 c. in a like manner to the first supply. The stamps are not hard to obtain either in used or mint condition. By looking at these stamps in the Catalogue it will be seen that the 5 c. of the second supply is catalogued 4s. mint, whilst the 50 c. of the first supply is catalogued 2s. mint. It is interesting, this comparison, as the printing of the 5 c. is exactly sixteen times as large as the 50 c., and yet the price is higher. I mention this as an example of the peculiarities of the stamp market. In the same year as the above supply (1900), toward the latter end there was noticed a scarcity of the 5 c. value. As it was impossible to obtain those on order for some months, there remained but one alternative, and that to overprint a remainder of the 30 c. rose, of the 1892 issue with the necessary value. Accordingly this was executed, and thus Chili received its first provisional. This surcharge exists in the usual varieties, for besides the normal it has been found inverted, doubly surcharged, double surcharge inverted, and also, I believe, it exists sideways—sometimes the line is broken, usually at the neck. In 1901-2



there appeared a new and very handsome issue, engraved in *taille-douce* by the American Bank Note Company, New York, and per-

forated 12. The immortal Christopher again adorns the stamp, but appears to have somewhat modified his appearance, as we now see him supplied with a new hat, and, also, his beard has been relegated to realms unknown. Unfortunately, he did not complete his fresh garb, for we notice him wearing still, the old collar as when last he sat for the photographer. The stamps are very beautiful and look splendid when well arranged, as the three lower values are in single colours and the three higher in two colours. Many beautiful shades abound, as the colours lend themselves well to differences of shade. Two years afterwards a further provisional came on the board, it being this time the 10 c. on the 30 c., brown-orange, of 1900-1 issue, supply three. This stamp, or rather the surcharge, exists in two varieties of type. In the first the "C" of "CENTAVOS" ends up just under the first stroke of the "N" of "CENTAVOS," and if continued it would be a part of the "N." In the second variety the "C" is thicker than in the former case, and it ends up in a minute ball. Both of these stamps are found in pairs, though not always in the same order, and very probably two rows in the sheet coincide. The surcharge is found inverted, and may also be found very nearly straight; copies of this stamp have also been seen doubly impressed. Still they come—a third provisional. Early in 1904 it was found that a considerable number of Telegraph stamps were on hand, and the Minister of the Interior decided to use them for franking letters by overprinting them "CORREOS," signifying "Postage." Accordingly a very large number was surcharged in various types and issued to the public at the instance of the decree published by the President, which read as follows:—

"REPUBLIC OF CHILI,

"MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR,

"SANTIAGO, April 22, 1904.

"The President has decreed as follows:—

"No. 1008. In view of the attached note of the Ministry of the Treasury, in which it is pointed out that it would be convenient to surcharge the Telegraph stamps which were withdrawn from circulation by Decree No. 4243 of October 10 last, with the object of using them as postage stamps. Considering that the supply of some values is growing scarce, and that the General Post Office has asked that stamps of the value of 3 centavos may be created for the illustrated post cards that go abroad and stamps of 12 centavos for registered matter in the towns, I decree that:—

"The Director of the Treasury is authorized to have surcharged with the word 'CORREOS' by means of lithography the following Telegraph stamps:—

"4,750,000 stamps of the value of 20 centavos with portrait of Pedro Valdivia for the value of 1 centavo."

"3,250,000 of the value of 2 centavos with the Arms of Chili.

"750,000 of the value of 1 peso with the Arms of Chili for the value of 3 centavos.

"5,000,000 of the value of 5 centavos with Arms of Chili.

"2,350,000 of the value of 10 centavos with Arms of Chili.

"1,150,000 of the value of 5 centavos with portrait of Pedro Valdivia for the value of 12 centavos.

"The stamps of 1, 3, and 12 centavos will bear, besides the word 'CORREOS,' their corresponding value in figures and words. The stamps thus surcharged will be used provisionally in franking correspondence, and will be regarded as being of the value they indicate. The plate used in surcharging will remain in the possession of the Ministry of the Treasury, and will be defaced."

The stamps alluded to above were surcharged in black. It is worthy of note that each of the above-chronicled stamps exists in two varieties. The difference lies with the animal which forms the support of the dexter side of the Chilian Arms. In Type 1 the animal, which is an extinct species of the huemul (*Cervus chiliensis*), has neither mane nor tail, whilst in Type 2 it appears with the mane of a horse and the tail of a cow. Whether the animal is found with and without the hirsute and caudal appendages I am unable to say. The American Bank Note Company was responsible for the animal in his nakedness, and Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson, and Co., of London, generously furnished him with a mane and tail. Until just recently the 3 c. on 1 peso was found only in Type 2, but a discovery some two months ago brought to light the stamp in Type 1. The 2 c., 5 c., and 10 c. are found with the overprint inverted in Type 1, and the 3 c. on 1 peso and 10 c., olive-green, have just lately been found with the inverted surcharge in Type 2. The 3 c. on 1 peso also exists with a double surcharge, and the "A" of "CENTAVOS" may be found without a bar. The stamps of Type 1 are perf. 12, and those of Type 2 perf. 14; no variations exist. The three remaining values are 1 c. on 20 c., blue, 3 c. on 5 c., red, and 12 c. on 5 c., red. In these values two variations of perforation occur; the first is manufactured by Messrs. Waterlow and Sons and gauges 14, and the second, by the American Bank Note Company, gauges 12. The 1 c. on 20 c. is only found perf. 12, and the other two values are only found perf. 14. In the 1 c. on 20 c. there is a slight variation in the engraving of the rivets of the armour, and on the 12 c. on 5 c. the third stamp in the fourth row has a broken figure "1" in "12," and the sixth in the sixth row has no

star at the left of "CENTAVOS." The 1 c. on 20 c., blue, and 12 c. on 5 c., red, have the surcharge inverted. I might say that these errors are extremely scarce and, consequently, very difficult to obtain; few, apparently, are on the market. Before closing this issue I have to chronicle another error, viz. 3 c., instead of 12 c., on 5 c., red (Head). There are some very fine shades of these stamps, especially in the red and olive-green colours. The last issue of this country appeared in 1905-7, and was again printed by the American Bank Note Company. This firm has produced in this set some of its very best works of art; the splendid design and appropriate colours make them very attractive, and worthily uphold the high standard of excellence of the American Company's productions. The 1 c. to 5 c. are printed in single colour, and from 10 c. to 1 peso the stamps are bicoloured. The stamps are perforated 12. In 1907, for general official use, the above stamps were surcharged "OFICIAL" in black. With this issue concludes the postal history of Chili. It will be readily admitted that Chili is little short of an ideal country. It has shown great business ability and tact in the production of new stamps. Old stamps have been used up before the new ones have been put in circulation, and only once has this country been guilty of an unnecessary issue. Chili is undoubtedly the pick of the South American States; its early issues afford the specialist unlimited scope, and the interest attached to them is unfailing. In addition to the Perkins Bacon stamps are the "Chilian stamps used in Peru," and much may be gleaned from a close study of the postmarks. In short, Chili offers to the extremist every opportunity for scientific observation and study, and to the ordinary specialist it opens out a field which affords continuous pleasure and enjoyment.

In 1879 Peru and Bolivia united against Chili, and were utterly worsted in 1883, Peru having to cede many places to Chili in consequence of their defeat. The victorious Chilians utilized the Peruvian post offices for purposes of revenue and convenience, and thus we have "Chilian stamps used in Peru." [For particulars see the recent article that appeared in *G.S.W.*—E.D.] Gibbons place the stamps of the Chilian Occupation under Peru, which I hope will soon be altered, as I consider that these stamps are in every way as worthy to be placed under Chili as a Great Britain stamp used in Malta would be to be placed under Great Britain.

The Stamps of the Ionian Islands

Their True Status

By W. WARD

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(Continued from page 335.)

AS to the stamps themselves, the plate from which they were printed bore 120 impressions from a single engraved die—at least, so the printers say. Our past authorities have said "that each plate—of which there were three—consisted of 150 stamps"! By "of which there were three," I presume one each for yellow, blue, and red is meant. As was found, one plate was sufficient for the quantity printed; and as the stamps are all of one type, only one was needed, of course, for the design.

Now as to the time and quantities of the respective printings. The very unlearned authority before me states that the following stamps were printed, sent out, and placed on sale on May 15, 1859:—

180,000 stamps, ½d., orange.
75,000 , 1d. (?), light blue.
45,000 , 2d. (?), carmine.

A little simple addition brings the grand total to 300,000. The same writer further explains that a second printing was made from the same [sic] plates, and that these can be distinguished by the change in colours of the two higher values to dark blue and vermilion respectively, and also by the paper. Again, that the ½d. of the first printing is printed upon yellowish-white paper without a watermark, and the others on bluish paper.

Where, oh, where did this beautiful story find birth?

[Major Evans, in the *M.J.*, January 31, 1898, commented on the inaccuracies of this article, so one authority at least knew better.—Ed. G.S.W.]

To further quote the ancient philatelic yarn, the second printing consisted as follows:—

450,000 stamps ; ½d., orange.
120,000 , 1d. (?), dark blue.
30,000 , 2d. (?), vermilion,

a total of 600,000.

The printers' words necessarily put an entirely new complexion upon an old face.

Messrs. Perkins Bacon say they printed 50,000 each of the red and blue stamps in 1858, which were issued the same year. Contemporary writers say that the issue took place on May 1 and 15 of the following year. It would be of interest to know whence came this information.

[We can hardly accept the printers' statement as conclusive evidence as to the date of issue. Westoby, in the *Stamps of Europe*,

gives the date as May 1, 1859, and it would appear that no mention is made of them in the philatelic Press till about then.—ED. G.S.W.]

The printers state that the yellow stamps were not issued at the same time as the other two, since the order for this value was not received until later. This, the yellow stamp, was printed in February, 1859, and the same quantity, i.e. 50,000. A stamp that is reported to have been issued is that of the yellow upon the paper watermarked with a figure "2," but nothing definite is known about this.

[Major Evans, in the review mentioned above, suggests that the writer was drawing upon a too fertile imagination.—ED. G.S.W.]

Now as to a few existent entire covers and wrappers. It is, of course, almost impossible to gauge any direct satisfaction from the amount of stamps borne by envelopes, as the empty cover cannot determine whether double, single, or other postage rates were needed for the original contents. Again, plenty of postal cards are seen nowadays used for inland mailing bearing a penny stamp, but this is not necessarily because the postal rate is a penny. The sender may have been in a hurry, and only possessed penny stamps; or the card may have had double postage on account of some matter affixed contrary to regulations, which enforce under such conditions a letter rate. It is the same with envelopes. I have letters arriving every week from the States bearing 5 c. stamps. This is not because the postage is 2½d. (it is now only 2 c.), but solely because the sender is unaware of penny postage between the two countries. I also get letters from Germany bearing 40 pf. stamps, and from France with a 45 c. stamp, whereas the postage on 2-ounce letters is only 35 pf. and 40 c. respectively.

But to the Ionians. The following are a few of the examples of entires bearing the stamps given:—

- i. Letter from Corfu to St. Mura, 1 red and 1 blue, date not marked.
- ii. Letter from Corfu to St. Mura, 2 yellow and 1 blue, date June, 1863.
- iii. Letter from Corfu to St. Mura, 2 yellow and 2 red, pen-cancelled.

In addition to these, I have seen several envelopes in the possession of a well-known collector of these stamps, who has also

several letters from Corfu to St. Mura as follows:—

- iv. Bearing 2 yellow and 1 red stamps dated September, 1859.
- v. Bearing 2 yellow and 1 blue stamps dated July 15, 1864.
- vi. Bearing 3 red stamps, the letter of which was surcharged 6d. to pay, dated April 20, 1861.

From numbers i., ii., iii., and v. one would deduce that the blue stamp represented twice the value of a red, and a red double the carrying power of the yellow. Yet number iv. rather upsets this theory.

But we have other evidence that the postage from Corfu to Malta was 6d. Mr. Owen Fearnley, the gentleman referred to as owner of Nos. iv., v., and vi., who attempted to obtain the fullest information with regard to these stamps when he visited the islands, has an entire posted in Corfu to Malta, dated September 20, 1859, bearing 1 blue and 2 red stamps, but the packet was surcharged 4d. to pay.

Assuming that the amount of postage short was surcharged double, then we can make the deduction again that the 1d. stamp was the red, and the blue the 2d. value.

The reader will now see my meaning and intent. As stated earlier in my article, I have all along been of the opinion that the catalogue placing of red for the 2d. and blue for the 1d. values was incorrect.

However, I did not intend to rest and be satisfied upon such slight evidence, and I claimed the kindly help of the printers, Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co., on this point, and, as stated before, they say distinctly that the red stamp was the 1d. value, which they purposely watermarked with a figure "1," and the blue was the 2d. value, likewise purposely watermarked with a numeral "2."

[There is reason in Mr. Ward's argument, but the Ionian authorities, whatever their original intentions were, may have known nothing or cared less about the usual colours for the 1d. and 2d. values, and mixed them up when issuing the stamps for sale. The best evidence would be some postal decree.

—ED. G.S.W.]

Certainly, it is correct to say that these stamps were also sold for 1, 2, and 4 oboli each respectively, for this coin was in currency at the time. The stamps therefore seem to me to be more correctly listed as follows:—

Issued (Month ?) 1858.

(1 penny or 2 oboli) carmine, watermark double-lined "1."
(2 pence or 4 oboli) blue, watermark double-lined "2."

Issued (Month ?) 1859.

(halfpenny or 1 oboli) orange, no watermark.

Just a further mention of the coin *oboli*. This was of very ancient origin and cur-

rency. I have had the pleasure of inspecting an inscribed papyrus dated A.D. 8-9 (the thirty-sixth year of Cæsar), wherein the oboli is mentioned as the fraction of a drachma—the writer, a merchant, giving particulars of his payment of 1 drachma 2 oboli daily in silver to his servant. The locality in which this employer lived was Oxyrhynchus, a place on the Upper Nile, Egypt. Though, used during the regency of Cæsar, it is very evident that the coinage originated from Greece.

Readers possessing Ionian stamps pen-marked must not assume that they have been fiscally used. I am afraid that there are many collectors who associate pen-cancellations with a revenue duty. I have known many people cast aside early Canadians, Tasmanians, Indians, Ceylons, and other stamps when a manuscript cross or date in figures, or words and figures have been inscribed upon the stamps. This has been occasioned because no cancelling stamp has been at hand or in existence. Maybe the letters bearing the stamps came from some little out-of-the-way place, and the amount of mail hardly warranted the provision of a cancelling stamp.

With regard to Indian and Ceylon stamps, large quantities of which are met with bearing a pen-cancellation over which a postmark has been placed, it has been often explained that the sender would draw his pen through or across the stamps, or sign his initials to prevent the theft of the stamps after the packet had left his hands. This was one of the means resorted to in the attempt to prevent the nimble-fingered Asiatics "lifting" the prepaid postage. No, don't turn aside penmarked Ionians. Of course, there were several styles of cancellation used upon the Ionian stamps. These will be found bearing Italian and Greek inscriptions. The chief style may be described as a tablet containing the date, surmounted by a scroll bearing the name of the town. The date of the month is sometimes above and sometimes below that of the year.

In the 'sixties, through changes of Government, etc., large quantities of European stamps, e.g. Italian States, were thrown upon the market. Very soon these came to be looked upon as worthless, and collectors ignored them for used specimens. An old collector, in a letter to me a few days ago, said, "In my schooldays we classed all unused stamps as forgeries, through these European remainders, and still to-day I have no great liking for unused specimens." I often wonder whether history will repeat itself in this respect. If collectors ignored current unused stamps and only collected used, those Governments which make a feature of providing new issues for

Philately would find their "job" gone, and once more we should have only stamps issued for postal purposes.

To illustrate this Victorian-era contempt for the stamps in case, it is on record that a London dealer papered a portion of his office with them. Probably this and similar treatment meted out to the Ionian Islands stamps has done them more good than harm, for they are by no means greatly in evidence or profusion to-day.

The Ionian Islands were ceded to Greece

on May 30, 1864, and ever since Grecian stamps have been used.

Who knows but what again another Napoleon may change the map of Europe, and subsequent events produce another series of postage stamps for Ionia? If so, let us hope their further advent will still occasion their cataloguing in Gibbons' Part I.

And a moral: even the country with the fewest stamps can have a greater history than the land of multitudes of philatelic varieties that carry no general interest.

"An Englishman's Collection" The Story of an Invasion of Foreign-made Move-able Leaf Albums

[ALL our weekly contemporaries are at present running Invasion stories; thus not to be "left," we respectfully present the following—though in this case the subject is a real one of thought for every discriminating philatelist. It is also well to mention that the story is an unsolicited contribution from a writer who describes himself as a "sufferer." Otherwise, taken in conjunction with the announcement on the back page of this number, unkind remarks as to advertisement might be made.—ED.]

I

JEREMIAH BINKS, a hard-working Englishman, like many another, has raked up a relic of his past schooldays—an old exercise-book filled with stamps and remains of stamps.

Leaving school, the fancy for spending his spare hours in the cricket or football field gradually superseded the boyish pastime of stamp collecting.

As a few years went on, football and cricket were gradually deserted. This time, instead of seeking the association of several of his fellows, he was satisfied with the company of one. Then one and one merged into one, with the help of an income tax and rate collector, who also ran a special-licence business as a side line.

After a time some sort of a hobby was again desired. Watching football matches or sweating on a cricket field was to be nevermore. They meant separation. Now the pastime must be one that would not require the forsaking of the benedictine nest.

A paragraph in a daily paper and a recollection of those early schooldays resulted in the quest and finding of that "album" of boyish workmanship already recorded.

Though the Government's representative had made one and one into one, the penny cake cost twopence. Thus J. B. was not altogether able to plunge into such a thing

as stamp collecting without first considering the pennies that make the pounds and shillings.

Thought is mother of the deed, and for the second time in his career J. B. entered the ranks of philatelic brotherhood.

A rueful survey of the juvenile "album" made it at once apparent that a more orthodox book was wanted to hold the treasure. A call at a big stationer's and bookseller's in the City soon settled the question, and Jeremiah Binks might have been seen wending his way home to Suburbia early one evening with a large flat parcel under his arm.

II

J. B. and his pretty half of domestic happiness are discovered with their new purchase, a large stamp album. They are busily occupied in transferring the accumulation of early days into the new book, but not without trouble.

Each page of the album is divided off into more or less equal spaces in type-set rectangles. The first space has inside it an illustration in small size of the first stamp of the set. As the "bringing forth" of the cut has not been too well done, a difficulty presents itself in recognizing the design.

This, however, was of minor importance compared with another obstacle to placing the various stamps in their correct spaces. True, the parents of both J. B. and his wife gave them an excellent education to help them in their walk through the world, and they were taught English, Latin, and Greek. A recollection of the first they still possessed, but the two latter had long since been forgotten. Even if they had remembered it would have helped but little to understand the meaning of such words in the blank spaces in the album as Aufdrück, Wasserzeichen, Rötlichbraun, Jubilaumsausgabe, Aushilfsausgabe, and many another seemingly jumbled mass of letters.

Still another trouble presented itself. At the end of each continent was a series of blank pages intended for stamps that were to be issued in the future, whilst at the back of the book was provided a kind of supplement for the stamps issued within the previous three years, for which provision had not been made under the respective countries. Thus our friend found himself obliged to affix the emissions of the more productive lands, as far as post-office catering goes, in no less than three distinct portions of the album. Still he valiantly struggled on.

III

Much to the dismay of his life partner, Jeremiah was persuaded to join a society of stamp collectors by a friend similarly disposed.

Then his seriousness and collection grew. But he then began to be somewhat ashamed of his philatelic array, not so much because it was a small collection, but on account of its presentation, which was hardly one of spick-and-spanness.

The leaves being of a thin, poorly made glazed paper, were already showing signs of yellow age. The corners of the pages soon curled and dog-eared. It required but little lack of care in turning over a page to provoke a nasty tear. But worse still, the continual using of the book had been too much for its spinal arrangements, or, in other words, its back had "given." Each section was wired, and then the whole had been stitched to almost network pieces of very poor tape. The wires had rusted, which in turn meant the stitches giving; the glue fixing the tape had cracked, and soon the cover parted from the leaves. From a fixed, it had indeed verily become a moveable leaf album.

After much persuasion his fellow-members succeeded in viewing his collection. As friends they complimented him upon his stamps, but one more bold than the remainder asked him why he did not get a new album. Now since this query fell but

a couple of months after the purchase of his present album, it was rather a blow to the resuscitated philatelist.

Another of the company showed him an "Ideal" album, having all the world in one volume.

Jeremiah viewed it, and admitted its superior mounting and binding, but shook his head, remarking that he was afraid he could not afford its cost. "But, man, half a sovereign is not much for a good album that will last you years," returned the friend. "Half a what?" cried J. B. "Why, this album cost me fifteen shillings but a couple of months ago."

"That I don't doubt," said the owner of the ten-shilling "Ideal," but you must remember yours is a foreign-made album, whilst this is British." And to lay stress upon the definition of the latter, he turned over the strong, pliable, yet tough leaves of white paper, whilst bending the book backwards inside out as proof of its *all-stitched-with-strong-thread* binding; whilst he casually mentioned, to the surprise of astonished Jeremiah, that he had purchased it twenty months ago, that all the inscriptions and words were in English, and that the arrangement did not entail a lot of vexatious divisions of a country.

IV

That evening our hero underwent that trial that often enough proves the loss of an admirer of Philately, viz. loss of heart; but passing a dealer's shop the following day, enthusiasm was rekindled. That selfsame night, after his business was finished, he might have been seen once again going homewards with an album under his arm.

Such was the lesson that this typical English collector learned, and when the day arrived that in his study of Philately he forsook general collecting for specialism, he bought a moveable-leaf album that was sold as a *moveable-leaf album*. But he also took care not to buy one bearing an alien name, or with leaves stuck on brass paper-fasteners.

New Issues and Discoveries

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Crete.—We have received the 10 and 20 lepta surcharged as Type 42 (below), in black, and Champion's *Bulletin* (25.4.09) lists four other varieties. Illustrations of the various stamps will be found in the Catalogue.

ΕΛΛΑΣ

40

1909. Type 23 overprinted with Type 40, in black.
3 dr., black and orange (No. 108).

ΕΛΛΑΣ
41

1909. Type 31 overprinted with Type 41, in black.
25 l., black and blue (No. 124).

ΕΛΛΑΣ

42

1909. Overprinted with Type 42, in black.

Type.

33	10 l., dull carmine.
39	20 l., blue-green (No. 104).
21	50 l., brown (No. 106).
11	2 dr., brown (No. 90).

Italian P.O.'s in Crete.—It is stated in *Champion's Bulletin* (25.4.09) that the latest type of 50 c. has been issued with the usual overprint.



40

1909. Type 40 overprinted with Type 122, in black.
920| 50 c., mauve (No. 132).

LA CANEA

122

United States.—As stated in our last issue, the authorities seem to be experimenting with different papers for the current issue of postage stamps. The 1 c. imperf. has just been received on perfectly white paper instead of on *toned*.

Apropos of *toned* paper, several values of the earlier printings, which are still being issued, were in that condition, but our lists in the Addendum to the Catalogue, and in our issues of January 30, February 20 and 27, March 13 and 27, did not make it very clear. We therefore re-chronicle all stamps issued since number 443 of our Catalogue.



112



113



114

1909-9. Types 112, 113, and 114 (3 c. to \$1). Wmk.
"U. S. P. S." (a) Perf. 12.

447	1 c., deep green on <i>toned</i> .
448	2 c., carmine on <i>toned</i> .
449	3 c., deep mauve-violet.
450	4 c., yellow-brown.
451	5 c., deep blue on <i>toned</i> .
452	6 c., reddish orange.
453	8 c., sage-green on <i>toned</i> .
454	10 c., lemon-yellow on <i>toned</i> .
455	13 c., blue-green on <i>toned</i> .
456	15 c., ultramarine.
457	50 c., pale violet.
448	\$1, purplish black.

(b) Imperf.

461	1 c., deep green on <i>toned</i> .
462	1 c., green.
463	2 c., rose on <i>toned</i> .
466	3 c., deep mauve-violet.
468	4 c., yellow-brown.
470	5 c., deep blue on <i>toned</i> .



115

FEBRUARY 12, 1909. Issue commemorative of the Centenary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln. Type 154
Wmk. "U. S. P. S."

(a) Perf. 12.

475| 2 c., rose on *toned*.

(b) Imperf.

476| 2 c., rose on *toned*.



154

SPECIAL DELIVERY STAMP. DECEMBER, 1908. Type 154
Perf. 12.

511| 10 c., green on *toned*.

Victoria.—We have received the 3d., perf. 11, and the 5d., perf. 12½, in new shades, described below. Of the 3d. we are informed that there was only one sheet issued perforated 11, and of the 1d. similarly perforated (No. 305 in the Catalogue) only three or four sheets. As regards the 1d. (perf. 12½) the new shade may well be called *pale chocolate*; the former colour of this stamp is given in the Catalogue (No. 296a) as *chocolate*, and it is a deep, rich shade.



63



67

1909. Wmk. Crown over A, Type 77.

(a) Perf. 12½ or 12×12½.

290b| 63| 5d., pale chocolate.

(b) Perf. 11.

307a| 67| 3d., orange-buff.

ANSWER TO NEW ISSUE CORRESPONDENT.

H. W. HAWKINS.—Thank you for your card re Rhode-sian "no stops." We shall be referring to those varieties shortly; they are of no great importance.

We had received the ts. multiple Fiji before we got your card; many thanks all the same.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

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MAY 29, 1909

VOL. IX.

The Postal Issues of Italy and the Italian Colonies

By L. HANCIAU

(ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.)

(Continued from page 217.)

IT was in March, 1864, that Messrs. De La Rue and Co., having received an order for 15 centesimi stamps, suggested that the design of the 15 c. of December, 1863, should be replaced by the annexed type, which was submitted first with a solid ground, and later with a ground of horizontal lines. The proposal was made through Mr. Perazzi, the Italian agent in London, who appears to have resided there for more than a year; this gentleman advocated

the adoption of the new design, and specially recommended that it should be printed in *Italian brown*, "a colour which can be regularly obtained in the trade and which prints well."

This design shows a profile to left of King Victor Emmanuel II in a rectangular frame inscribed as follows: on the left, "FRANCO BOLLO"; on the right, "DELLA POSTA"; at the top, "ITALIA"; and at the bottom, "15 Cent."

1. Coloured impression, on white surfaced paper. Wmk. Crown of 1863. Imperf.

(a) Solid background.

15 cent., ultramarine, green, greenish grey, orange, red-brown, brown.

(b) Horizontally lined background.

15 cent., blue, ultramarine, green, grey-green, orange, yellow-brown, red-brown, brown, bright lilac, grey, black.

2. As 1 (b), but on white, glazed card.

15 cent., sky-blue, dull blue, ochre-yellow, red-brown.

In recommending the adoption of this design in place of that of the 15 centesimi of 1863, Mr. Perazzi stated that, owing to the bad engraving of the latter, the plates reproduced from it had but an extremely short



life. In fact, the printers had been obliged to renew the plate no less than *thirty* times to print off the 500 reams; whilst for the 10 centesimi only *three* plates had been required for 139 reams, and *four* for 173 reams of 5 centesimi.

In spite of all this, the design was not adopted, but a month later these gentlemen of London submitted a proof of the 1863 design redrawn, in which appeared four easily distinguishable white dots in the oval band, two at each side, added one above and one below each of the ornaments. The impression is in *black*, on white, glazed card, with the date on which the proof was submitted, "*April 30, 1864*," in *black*, in the corner of the card.

Redrawn design; four white dots in the oval. On white, glazed card.

15 centesimi, black.

This proposal of Messrs. De La Rue having been accepted, they proceeded to print, at London, various lots of these stamps (which, as we see below, underwent a further modification) with a view to their conversion into 20 centesimi.

We must suppose that the engraving was even worse than that of the type of 1863, for the printers were obliged to re-engrave afresh the second type during the printing of about 110,000 sheets, begun with the old 1863 plate, in *dull blue* and *bright blue*. It was thus that another essay appeared, a copy of which is described by Dr. E. Diena as found printed on the paper of the postage stamps and perforated 14. This was probably a copy submitted to the Administration of Posts; it shows the four dots rather smaller than before, and in addition, eight others placed at the ends of the ornaments in the corners, within the kind of figures "7" which may be seen there.

Re-engraved type, showing 12 dots. No surcharge. Perf. 14.

15 centesimi, deep blue.

From the above information we can see that the correspondent of *Le Timbre-Poste* was misinformed when he stated in March, 1864, and September, 1868, that it was in consequence of an accident to the die and the plate of the 15 centesimi of 1863 that Messrs. De La Rue and Co. had submitted a new design in March, 1864, intended to replace the damaged one, and that the Government had, in reply, instructed them simply to repair the injured die, introducing the white dots at the sides of the oval the better to hide the damage.

That the 1863 die had deteriorated from usage (it was even said that it was *broken*) is quite certain; the proposal made in March, 1864, is sufficient proof of this; but that the plate had been damaged at the very same time would have been a piece of bad luck which it is hardly possible to imagine. The correspondent of *Le Timbre-Poste* must certainly have made some mistake about this, owing, perhaps, to the fact that Messrs. De La Rue and Co. reported to the Government that both the original die and the plate were in such a bad condition, that they could neither make reproductions from the former nor print from the latter.

Finally the design proposed in March, 1864, was certainly rejected—first, because the Administration of Posts wished to postpone any change in the design until the time came for manufacturing the stamps in Italy, a matter which was under consideration at this very time (April, 1864), after the investigations made by M. Perazzi; and secondly, because it was believed that the worn die could be sufficiently repaired.

The London firm being unable to carry out this impossible task, thought it best to re-engrave the design of 1863, and on the 30th April, 1864, they submitted a specimen which, as we know, showed four white dots in the position mentioned above. These dots were not used to hide damaged portions (which did not exist), but rather to render the stamps made from the re-engraved die easily distinguishable from those of the 1863 die, in case there should be any doubt as to the authenticity of such stamps. They may be considered, therefore, as more or less secret marks, which thus had a certain object, as also had the twelve dots on the later die.

During this time the Government was discussing the advisability of raising the letter rate from 15 to 20 centesimi, as the finances of Italy were at a rather low ebb. Commendatore Barbavara, a Senator of the Kingdom and Director-General of Posts (who, in his capacity as Representative of the King, had recommended the reduction of the rate for an ordinary letter to 10 centesimi, and who had obtained the reduction to 15 centesimi), was now obliged to withdraw

his recommendation and to agree that an increased rate was unavoidable.

Under these circumstances the supply of 15 centesimi stamps ordered in London became absolutely useless; and as soon as the law of the 24th November, 1864, was passed, Messrs. De La Rue and Co., who had no doubt been duly warned beforehand, and with whom the authorities must have made their arrangements, received orders to convert the 15 centesimi stamps into 20 centesimi, by means of a surcharge; and the stamps were duly delivered on the 2nd and 8th December.

The following is the paragraph of the law treating of the alteration of the letter rates:—

"Art. 5. The tariff for prepaid letters established by Art. 6 of the law of the 5th May, 1862, at 15 centesimi and multiples thereof is provisionally increased to 20 centesimi and multiples thereof."

"This increased rate is applicable to the progressive tariff of prepayment of registered and insured letters, and letters carried by merchant vessels."

"All the other rates remain unchanged, and will continue to be charged in accordance with the regulations established by the law of the 5th May, 1862, above-mentioned."

As the printing of the 15 centesimi stamp with dots had never left the works of Messrs. De La Rue, it is a waste of time to look for stamps of that value with four or twelve dots; they were issued only with the surcharge, as 20 centesimi.

* * *

In December, 1864, the department received the ridiculous proposal embodied in the following letter, together with various stamps, etc., set out below:—

"Proposal for Italian Postage Stamps to be manufactured in the Capital of the Kingdom."

"Designs and execution (except that of the portrait of the Sovereign), reproduction in electrotype, preparation of the colours, and printing by typography, the whole

"By G. SEGUIN,
"Late printer at Naples."

Here followed a row of five stamps, showing the head of Victor Emmanuel II, with a little pointed beard like Mephistopheles; they were provided with the following various inscriptions: "FRANCO BOLLO", "ITALIE", "POSTE ITALIANE," "FRANCO BOLLO POSTE", "FRANCO BOLLO ITALIANO", "REGNO D'ITALIA", etc. Below these were four others, with a similar head, and a 1 centesimo stamp at the beginning of the row of four and a 2 centesimi at the end, these two values bearing numerals. There was also a third row of five stamps, and the series was arranged as follows:—

5 c. No value. 30 c. 25 c. 2 c.
1 c. 20 c. 15 c. 10 c. 40 c. 2 c.
2 lire. 30 c. 40 c. 35 c. 60 c.

These illustrations show some of the designs:-



Below were fifteen stamps with the head, but without value, and the following note:-

"One-tenth of a sheet, each to contain one hundred and fifty stamps."

"NOTE.—The present work being on our own initiative and not to order, we have thought it

necessary to forbid the accurate reproduction of the portrait of the sovereign, so as to avoid all idea of counterfeiting" [the stamps in use?]; "for the same reason we have omitted it from some of our Essays. In the event of our proposal being favourably received, we undertake to submit, previous to the final approval of the authorities, an effigy of exquisite execution, that is to say a perfect portrait, of such a nature as to compare, and perhaps advantageously, with the stamps now in use.

"G. SEGUIN.

"Paris; Printing Works of E. Donnans,
"Rue Cassette 9."

All the above designs are printed in *blue*, *rose*, *green*; some of them are known with a double impression in *yellow*; they are simply caricatures. I have no doubt that M. G. Seguin considered that his talents were not properly appreciated, as his suggestions were rejected without discussion.

* *

We now come to the Decree of the 4th December, 1864, which announces the issue of a new stamp of the value of 20 centesimi.

"VICTOR EMMANUEL II.

"By the Grace of God and by the Will of the Nation

"KING OF ITALY.

"In view of Art. 5 of the law of the 24th November, 1864,

"On the proposal of Our Minister of Public Works,

"We have decreed and do decree as follows:-

"Art. 1. From the 1st January, 1865, two new postage stamps will be created—one of the value of 2 centesimi, and the other of 20 centesimi.

"Art. 2. The colour of the 2 centesimi stamp will be Italian brown, and it will bear in the centre the numeral '2,' with ornaments similar to those of the 1 centesimo stamp.

"Art. 3. The 20 centesimi stamp will be identical with the present 15 centesimi, with merely a change in the indication of the value.

"Art. 4. New 20 centesimi postage stamps will not be issued until after the exhaustion of the stock of 15 centesimi, which will have the inscription of their present value effaced by a line in Italian brown ink, and will have in the corners 'C. 20' (20 centesimi).

"We ordain that this decree, duly sealed with the Seal of the State, be inserted in the official record of the laws and decrees of the Kingdom of Italy, and we command all whom it may concern to obey it, and to cause it to be obeyed.

"Given at Turin, the 4th December, 1864.

"VICTOR EMMANUEL

"S. JACINI."

The following decree grants a commission to the vendors of postage stamps, and states that this commission is to be allowed to them by the various post offices.

"VICTOR EMMANUEL II.

"By the Grace of God and by the Will of the Nation

KING OF ITALY.

"In view of the decree of the 15th December, 1860,

"And of Article 70 of the regulations authorized by the Decree of the 21st September, 1862;

"On the proposal of Our Minister of Public Works,

"We have decreed and do decree as follows:—

"Art. 1. Post Offices of all classes are under an obligation to supply postage stamps at a discount of 2% to the vendors who are authorized by the Administration, and who are resident within the postal district of that office.

"Art. 2. A commission of 2% on the value of stamps sold by them is allowed to the persons in charge of second-class Post Offices, and to the distributors of stamps.

"We ordain that this decree, duly sealed with the Seal of the State, be inscribed in the official record of the laws and decrees of the Kingdom of Italy, and we command all whom it may concern to obey it, and to cause it to be obeyed."

"Given at Turin, the 11th December, 1864.

"VICTOR EMMANUEL

"S. JACINI."

In accordance with the decree of the 4th December, 1864, the 20 centesimi stamps were duly issued on the 1st January, 1865, but the 2 centesimi announced for the same date did not make its appearance until the 1st of the following March.

The 15 centesimi stamps remained in use, and, in fact, they were not really withdrawn until the 31st December, 1889, with the other values bearing the head of Victor Emmanuel, and that in spite of the regulations for the postal service published on the 20th December, 1866, in which that particular value (the 15 c.) was not mentioned:—

"Art. 106. The size, shape, value, and colour of the postage stamps are fixed by special Royal Decrees. At present there are nine values, viz. 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 30, 40, 60 centesimi, and 2 lire."

Issue of January 1st, 1865.

Head of King Victor Emmanuel II to left in an oval; design of 1863, with the original value covered by a thick bar,

C **20** in brown; in the upper corners, also in brown, "C 20," and in the lower corners "20 C." Coloured impression on white glazed paper, watermark Crown. Perf. 14.

20 **C** The die was engraved by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., of London, and several reproductions were made from it, thereby producing the following different types:—

- (a) Type of 1863, without dots at each side of the oval.
- (b) ,, submitted for approval on the 30th April, 1864. (Four dots.)
- (c) ,, submitted for approval in June (?), 1864. (Twelve dots.)

This is the order in which they were engraved.

Dr. E. Diena has found them obliterated with the following earliest dates:—

- (a) Dated 19th March, 1865.
- (b) ,, 13th February, 1865.
- (c) ,, 2nd January, 1865,

and on this account the old correspondent of *Le Timbre-Poste* considers that the order of issue should be inverted, (a) becoming (c) and vice-versa, but there is no proof that earlier dates than those given above may not yet be discovered.* I should, however, acknowledge that although I have looked through an enormous number of these stamps, kindly placed at my disposal by Messrs. Gelli and Tani, I have found nothing to invalidate those dates, and I think that until further discoveries are made those dates must be accepted, and I rectify my list as follows:—

- (a) *January, 1865. Type of 1863 re-engraved showing 12 white dots.*

The dots are situated thus: two on either side of the oval, above and below the ornaments; the eight others at the ends of the ornamentation in the four corners, within the little devices shaped like a "7."

- 20 c. on 15 c., blue.
- 20 c. , 15 c., pale blue.
- 20 c. , 15 c., dull blue.
- 20 c. , 15 c., deep blue.
- 20 c. , 15 c., bright blue.

Varieties.

Inverted surcharge.

20 c. on 15 c., blue.

I have been informed that the following variety is to be found in a well-known Paris collection:—

Pair, with surcharge omitted on one stamp.

- { 15 c., blue.
- { 20 c. on 15 c., blue (brown surcharge).

- (b) *February (?), 1865. Type of 1863 re-engraved (30th April, 1864), showing 4 white dots.*

The four large dots are placed two on either side of the oval, as in (a).

* The actual order of issue was, no doubt, quite accidental. The last that were printed were very likely at the top, and thus were the first to be distributed.—E.D. G.S.W.

20 c. on 15 c., blue.
 20 c. , 15 c., pale blue.
 20 c. , 15 c., dull blue.
 20 c. , 15 c., deep blue.
 20 c. , 15 c., bright blue.

Blue is the usual colour for both (*a*) and (*b*); the others are varieties, of which the *pale blue* and *bright blue* are the scarcer. The *pale blue* is not the same shade as that given under (*c*).

(*c*) March, 1865. *Type of 1863, without white dots.*

20 c. on 15 c., pale blue.
 20 c. , 15 c., milky blue.
 20 c. , 15 c., blue.
 20 c. , 15 c., dull blue.
 20 c. , 15 c., bright blue.

Inverted surcharge.

20 c. on 15 c., pale blue.

The *pale blue* and *milky blue* are the ordinary shades, the others are the exception, and are rarer.

It was on the 8th December, 1864, that the printers completed the delivery of the surcharged stamps, the total number being 10,896,500 (inclusive of half this amount delivered on December 2nd).

A circular issued about the end of December, 1864, directed the post offices to return as soon as possible the entire sheets of the 15 centesimi stamps of 1863 which might be in their possession, and directed them at the same time to dispose as far as possible of the single copies of these, adding to them a 5 centesimi stamp to make up the new rate of 1865, pending the issue of the 20 centesimi stamps.

It was added that the return of the 15 centesimi stamps was necessary in order that they might be utilized by being surcharged; it was not stated where the surcharging was to be done, but there is nothing surprising in this!

With regard to this question, more than one explanation has been put forward. The oldest, that given in *Le Timbre-Poste* (15th June, 1865), which has almost come to be accepted as a fact, stated that—

"The two workmen who had printed, in London, in the works of Messrs. De La Rue, the ugly semicircular surcharge, which transformed the 15 centesimi, went to Italy to carry out the same change."

According to another story, from a printing works in Turin, it was, on the contrary, two Italian journeymen printers who commenced the work in 1863 (*sic!*), and finished it in 1866 (again *sic!*).

Finally we have a third version from Dr. E. Diena, that it was

"between March and December, 1866, that 9,800,000 stamps were surcharged at Turin."

Let us now compare the facts with the dates given. First of all, I believe that we may give the story of *Le Timbre-Poste* a first-class funeral. I admit the probability of negotiations having taken place, with a view to obtaining the services of English printers, who would have gone to Turin to complete the work of surcharging, but it is certain that, under the circumstances, this plan had to be given up. It would, moreover, have given the lie to the Italian proverb, "Chi va piano, va sano" (Slow and sure), if we could imagine for a moment that the stamp-printing office, founded on the 25th May, 1865, was sufficiently provided with machinery and in a position to permit of the work in question, which was announced in *Le Timbre-Poste* of the 15th June, 1865, as being then completed!

As for the version of Turin, it is hardly to be taken seriously, even if we suppose "1863" to have been printed by mistake for "1865," since, at that date, nobody had ever printed any kind of surcharge there.

There remains only the version of Dr. E. Diena, who is not in the habit of making statements without the greatest caution, and after having collected together all the information that can aid him in forming an opinion. But this case is an exception, as our old colleague of *Le Timbre-Poste* is completely mistaken.

According to Dr. Diena there would have been 9,800,000 stamps (the whole stock) surcharged at Turin, to which we must add, say, 1,000,000 (to give good measure) left over at the various post offices, either in single copies or in broken sheets. In round numbers we have 11,000,000 stamps remaining unsold on the 1st January, 1865, which was the date of the issue of the surcharged stamps.

As we saw above, the number printed of the 1863 issue was 100,000,000 stamps; there would thus have been sold, according to Dr. Diena's figures, between the 1st December, 1863 (the date of issue of the 15 c.), and the 31st December, 1864 (the date of the suppression of that value), 89,000,000 stamps in thirteen months, an average of 6,800,000 stamps per month. Now, if we recollect that the supply ordered of the mixed lot of 1864 amounted to 10,896,500 copies, we find that at the rate mentioned above an order would have been sent for a supply about sufficient to last for six weeks only, which would imply such a want of foresight on the part of the Department as I cannot conceive to be possible. An order for a supply for three months would be more likely, and we should thus have a monthly consumption of about 3,000,000 stamps, a number which would be confirmed by the order given for the 20 centesimi, unsurcharged, of which 21,600,000

were received ; these were first issued on the 1st May, 1867, and replaced in part in December of the same year, after a sale, therefore, of seven months, which, at some 3,000,000 per month, gives us the 21,000,000 stamps that had been received.

But I shall be told that, according to an inventory taken at the close of 1866, there was a reserve of 7,000,000 stamps, in addition to those which were in the possession of the various post offices for the first quarter of 1867, and which had been distributed for use during the second quarter of 1867. But this reserve was certainly not large enough, for it must undoubtedly have been necessary to complete it by means of the stamps which appeared on the 1st May ; therefore it was 7,000,000 stamps that were used between the 1st April and the 1st May.

With regard to the printing, which was said to have been done in Turin between March and December, 1866, I have the following observations to make :—

The colour characteristic of the 15 centesimi of December, 1863, is *pale blue*, or rather *milky blue*, the shade even going as far as a true *blue* when chance has caused the colour to be deeper. Now the *milky blue* shade is *never* found in the 1864 printing of that value, because of the instructions given by the Italian Government to deepen the colour. Further, I have been able to ascertain that after March, 1865, 20 c. on 15 c. stamps in the very same *pale blue*, or *milky blue* shade, were used down to the end of that year. It was thus impossible that the supposed impressions of March to December, 1866, which would all have been of the *pale blue* shade, could have been used a year before the surcharging was done ; and as the Turin stamp-printing office was not established until May, 1865, it was equally impossible for the stamps surcharged there to be used in March. We may therefore say with certainty that the whole of the surcharging was done in London.

(To be continued.)

A History of the Post Office and the Stamps of Malta

By LIEUT. W. R. GATT, Royal Malta Artillery

(Continued from page 225.)

The ONE FARTHING Stamp.

UP to the end of December, 1900, newspapers passed free through the post within the limits of the Islands.

An Ordinance (No. XVI of 1900) was passed whereby each newspaper was to be charged One Farthing postage from January, 1901.

As a consequence the One Farthing stamp was issued. It is perforated 14, and watermarked Crown and CA. The colour is *brown*, but it is found in various shades, particularly in tints of *light brown*, *purple-brown*, and *red-brown*. In some of the *purple-brown* sheets the sky is *red-brown*; this produces a very striking effect. I have examined many sheets with these combined shades, and find that they are visible on the upper row only, a fact which leads me to the conclusion that this effect is due to the inking.

The stamps are issued in sheets of 120, two panes of sixty stamps each, one above the other. Some sheets show a figure "2" in the left margin opposite the bottom row of the lower pane, and 9 mm. away from the nearest stamp. This I have only seen on sheets with the multiple watermark.



The view shown on the stamp represents the harbour of Valletta (the capital of Malta) with a battleship at its mouth. The design has met with the general approval of the philatelic Press.

Having the opportunity of examining a considerable number of sheets, I note that the position of the watermark shows four varieties :—

A. Watermark normal, i.e. horizontal, with Crown at left, and the letters at right reading correctly.

B. Watermark reversed ; Crown at left, letters at right reading backwards.

C. Watermark inverted ; Crown at right, letters at left reading correctly.

D. Watermark inverted and reversed ; Crown at right, letters at left backwards.

B and D are the results, of course, of printing the stamps on the wrong side of the paper.

Variety D is the rarest. These varieties

were only found in the first batch of sheets printed ; later printings all have the watermark in position A.

The same varieties exist in the 5d. stamps, and *reversed* watermarks may be found in the other values, but, as stated previously, the watermarks are seldom found inverted.

[As this appears to be the only stamp of Malta of which more than one plate was made, showing distinguishing marks in the margins, I add, with Mr. Gatt's permission, a little further description of the plate arrangements.—E. B. E.]

There are, in each case, two panes of sixty, one above the other, with a space of nearly 10 mm. between the two panes, the same practically as the space between the panes side by side of the ordinary De La Rue stamps. The earlier of the two plates that can be distinguished bore no plate number, but at each corner of the sheets there is an impression of a circular mark, 11½ mm. away from the corner of the nearest stamp. This mark is 10 mm. in diameter, and looks as if it was produced by the head of a bolt or rivet, sunk in the plate, for securing it to the press. Whether any accident happened to this plate, or not, I cannot say, but I have a block of stamps from the left upper corner of a sheet, with a good wide margin, showing an impression of what might be a crack across the plate, running horizontally from the centre of this corner mark, and an impression of another similar circular mark in the side margin opposite the first stamp in the top row. It seems therefore possible that the top margin of this plate split at the point where the hole for the bolt or rivet at the left upper corner had been drilled, and that it thus became necessary to insert another bolt lower down, and finally to make another plate.

The impressions from the second plate show no signs of these circular marks, so far as I have seen ; if similar bolts or rivets (or whatever these may be the marks of) are used, possibly the plate has wider margins, so that the impressions do not appear in the margins of the sheets. But these sheets are distinguished by the figure "2" in the margin at lower left, as already described. Other marginal marks are, usually, the same for both plates. There are two short vertical lines in each side margin at the top of the upper pane, and a single line in the corresponding positions at the bottom of the lower pane. In the centre of the top and bottom margins of the sheet and of the side margins of each pane there is a cross mark formed of a single vertical and a horizontal line ; but in the case of the sheet showing an impression of a crack at the top, the crosses at the sides are formed of two vertical lines and a single horizontal line, as if a second

vertical line, nearer the stamps, had been added to mark this state of the plate.

I should add that impressions of the first plate are only known to me upon the paper with single Crown and C A watermark ; and impressions of the second with the multiple watermark only, as if the new plate were brought into use with the new paper. But further research may show that one (or both) of the plates were used with both the papers.

A curious variety of perforation also occurs with this value. The sheets are perforated with a guillotine machine, and, as a rule, both sides of the space between the panes are perforated, thus making the stamps all alike. A few sheets, however, both with the single and the multiple watermark, have been found, with one of the central lines of perforation omitted, thus producing one horizontal row of stamps (either the bottom row of the upper pane or the top row of the lower) with an extra large margin at bottom or top. The space is not perforated along the centre, as in the earlier colonial stamps, giving both the adjacent rows a wide margin, but along one side only, thus giving a doubly wide margin to one row. Mr. Gatt tells me that he has only found the stamps with single watermark with extra margin at bottom, and those with multiple watermark with extra margin at top, but this may be merely a coincidence, and both may exist both ways ; presumably it was quite an accident which line was passed over.

* * *

The Provisional "One Penny" on 2½d.

One Penny

Owing to the One Penny value running short in 1902, £3000* worth of 2½d. stamps were converted into Penny stamps by a surcharge.

The stamps were issued on the 4th of July, 1902, and sold within a fortnight. The 1d. was the value for which there was the greatest demand ; the 2½d., of which there was the greatest stock, was rendered practically useless by the change in postal rates owing to the adoption of the Imperial Penny Postage System.

The surcharging was done locally at the Government Printing Office.

The sheets include the four principal shades of the 2½d. stamp, with their minor varieties. The majority of the stamps were those of the *blue* shade with *brown* gum, a stock that had been withdrawn from circulation some time back, owing to insufficiency of gum. The sheets in the *bright ultramarine* colour with *white* gum so surcharged.

* This was the value of the 1d. stamps produced.—E. B. E.

were very few and specimens are scarce; the error in this and the *blue* shades is quite a rarity.

In each pane (the sheet having two panes of ten rows of six) an error occurred of some importance but of no great rarity, except in the rare shades, having the word "Penny" spelt "Pnney". This happened on the second stamp from the left of the second row from the bottom. The surcharge was printed separately on each pane.

Total number of stamps surcharged—720,000, of which 12,000 have the "Pnney" error.

A few minor varieties may be here noted. The third stamp from the right of the third row from the top shows a broken "n" in the word "One". I have inspected three or four hundred sheets and found that this variety occurred on all of them. On some the surcharge is very heavily printed, and where the type has been unusually well inked, the letters are blurred, especially the "e" of "Penny". In this way, some stamps appear to be overprinted "Ponny", but of course we cannot assign any philatelic importance to such defects. It may also be found that in some of the sheets (very few though) the "P" of "Penny" on the second stamp from the left of the third row from the bottom, is broken, and looks like an "F". This is evidently the effect of the ink not having been absorbed by the paper owing to some surface matter.

Inquiries regarding the exact number of surcharged stamps elicited the following reply:—

"GENERAL POST OFFICE, MALTA,
"October 3, 1902.

"Gentlemen,—In reply to your application of the 24th ultimo, I have to state that 3000* sheets of 2½d. postage stamps surcharged 'One Penny' were issued to the public on the 4th of July last.

"I am, Sirs,
"Your obedient Servant,
"(sgd.) HENRY W. ENGERER,
"for the Postmaster-General.
"Messrs. G. Pulis and others,
Valletta."

The stamps met with a quick sale; a Maltese banker alone bought £1000 worth, as a speculation, which turned out a failure, he not being acquainted with the stamp business.

Just a month after, when the stock of surcharged stamps had been sold, a rumour became current to the effect that the "Pnney" errors were being forged. The Postmaster at the time seems to have been so anxious that those of the public who had purchased 1d. on 2½d. stamps should not be defrauded by false surcharges, and more especially

* The official idea of a sheet being that it always contained 240 stamps, four panes.

by forged "One Pnney" errors, that he ordered the marking of every unsurcharged 2½d. stamp with a tick like a "V," in red ink, on the Maltese Cross at the left upper corner, so as to prevent as far as possible any would-be faker obtaining material to operate upon. These suspicions were without any foundation, and the red tick was discontinued as soon as the ticked stock was exhausted.

In the November, 1902, number of *Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal* warning is given to collectors against a dangerous forgery of the "Pnney" error. This forgery has been seen and reported to the proper authorities, but it cannot be called dangerous; it was done with a handstamp, in greyish ink, and can very easily be detected. A copy which is in my collection has passed through the post.

KING EDWARD VII STAMPS.

New stamps bearing the effigy of King Edward VII were issued from time to time as the stock of the old stamps was exhausted.

All the values are in sheets of four panes of sixty, as in the case of some of those of the 1885 series, but with two broken "Jubilee lines" surrounding the panes. Of the two lines the inner one is in the colour of the frame, whilst the outer one is in that of the oval containing the King's Head.

The plate number is a white figure on a circular disc of the colour of the outer line the disc is surrounded by a circle of the same tint.

The sheets of the values of which the use is limited are frequently divided in half horizontally for convenience.



The design is somewhat similar to that of the old 1d. stamp, but with the Head of King Edward in the centre surmounted by a Royal Crown. Each value is printed from two plates, the "head" plate and the "duty" plate, the latter consisting of the whole design except the oval containing the head.

The stamps are watermarked Crown and CA and perforated 14.

The date given against each stamp is that on which the stamp was first sold to the public. The first colour is that of the oval bearing the King's effigy.

½d., green	12.3.03
1d., black and carmine	7.5.03
2d., magenta and grey	12.3.03
2½d., purple and ultramarine	9.9.03
3d., grey and magenta	26.3.03
4d., black and brown	19.5.04
1s., grey and dark lilac	6.4.03

About the middle of 1904 Messrs. De La Rue and Co. introduced a new paper for the stamps, having what is termed the "Multiple Crown and CA" watermark.

The first stamp of Malta issued on this paper was the 2½d.

The dates on which these stamps were first offered for sale to the public are given against them in the following list:—

½d.	6.11.04
1d.	24.4.05
2d.	22.2.05
2½d.	8.10.04
3d.	(Not yet issued)
4d.	1.4.06
1s.	20.12.04

Other stamps with the multiple watermark.

The ½d., 4½d., and 5d. stamps of the

pictorial issue were also printed on the new paper, and were issued to the public on the following dates:—

4d.	19.10.05
4½d.	27.2.05
5d.	29.12.04

All the stamps on the multiple paper are of a brighter tint than those on the single CA paper; none of them have been printed on the paper with chalky surface.

* * *

On April 2, 1907, the One Penny stamp was issued in carmine alone, instead of in black and carmine. This stamp and the ½d., green, on the paper with multiple watermark, have the space between the upper and lower halves of the sheet filled in with vertical bars, each formed of horizontal coloured lines within a coloured border, as in the case of some of the current stamps of Great Britain. There are four of these bars in the space corresponding with a stamp.

Id., carmine.

(To be continued.)

The Charges against Stamp Dealers

The Alleged Forgeries of North Borneo Colonial Stamps

ON Saturday, May 15, at Bow Street Police Court, before Mr. Curtis Bennett, there was a further hearing of the charges against John Stewart Lowden, twenty-nine, stamp dealer, 20 Villiers Street, Strand, and Henry Harmer, thirty-nine, stamp dealer, 11 Preston Road, Westcliff-on-Sea, of conspiring to obtain money by fraud from persons buying from them, or from the West End Stamp Company, or Herbert Mack and Co., Limited, stamps purporting to be issued for postage and revenue purposes in British North Borneo.

Mr. Bodkin appeared on behalf of the Director of Public Prosecutions; Mr. Curtis Bennett, instructed by Mr. Solomon Meyers, defended Lowden, and Harmer was represented by Mr. Frampton. Mr. C. V. Young watched the case on behalf of the Stamp Trade Protection Association.

Mr. William Ackland, 50 Osmond Road, Hove, replying to Mr. Bodkin said he dealt in stamps under the name of the London and Brighton Stamp Company. He recognized both prisoners. He first became acquainted with Lowden in April, 1908. He knew him as a stamp dealer trading as the West End Stamp Company, 20 Villiers Street, Strand. He was managing director of the Company. He saw Harmer about two months after at

the same place. He had had transactions with the Company, in buying, exchanging, and selling stamps. Generally the transactions had taken place through the post, but he had dealt personally with Lowden. He bought a quantity of stamps in April last year. Amongst the purchase were 1500 sets of four stamps each, of the Borneo 1887 issue, for which he paid five guineas. Also 400 sets of Borneo of the same issue, at 33s. 4d. per 100, £6 13s. 4d.

On April 22nd he bought 5000 sets of four stamps of the Borneo issue, £15, and 1000 sets of nine stamps, same issue, £12 10s. He had another transaction in May of last year, when he bought 1750 sets of four stamps Borneo 1887 issue for £5 5s., and 430 sets of nine stamps of the same issue for £5 7s. 6d. In September he had another transaction, and had a letter from Lowden in connection therewith, signed as managing director. On that occasion he purchased 1000 sets, four stamps each, Borneo 1887 issue, for £3, and 400 complete sets of nine each for £5. On October 7th last year he had another transaction with Lowden, who called at his (witness's) house at Hove. He brought a quantity of stamps with him, and he agreed to buy amongst others 8000 sets, called small Borneo ½, 1, 2, 3 (they were sets of the 1887 issue), for £24. He also bought

2000 complete sets of nine stamps each, 1887 issue, £25. The total of his purchases on that occasion amounted to £296. 3s. 8d.

Questioned as to what he did with the 1887 issues bought from the West End Stamp Company, witness said that in July or August, 1908, he sold about £60 worth of them to Mr. Brown, a stamp dealer of Salisbury.

Consequent on receiving a letter of complaint from Mr. Brown, he (witness) saw Lowden in London, and told him that a correspondent had said that he did not think the 1887 Borneo issues were genuine. Lowden said, "They are all right. I got them from the Borneo Company, along with the others, excepting a few that I have obtained here and there to complete broken sets."

He also stated that some of them might be reprints or printer's waste. He (witness) said that if that was the case he could not send the stamps out to his customers, because they would not be genuine. Lowden advised him to send them out without comment. He made an allowance to Mr. Brown in respect of the stamps of which he was complaining. He remembered Chief Inspector Stockley calling upon him, and he handed him a quantity of stamps from those which he had bought from the West End Stamp Company.

In cross-examination, witness said it was not true to say that he (witness) bought the stamps as reprints; he bought them as new.

The defendants were again remanded till Monday.

Philatelic Notes and Queries

By E. B. EVANS

Afghan Reprints

M R. BACON points out to me that I was mistaken in saying, in my notes of April 24th, that the second type of the 1 abasi (Type 41, 1889-90) "is only known on one variety of coloured paper," as it is mentioned on several varieties in his book on Reprints and in the recent work by Sir D. P. Masson and Mr. B. Gordon Jones. I unfortunately overlooked these references, and also the statement in the latter book that "they are believed to have been made after the issue had been superseded." I was led astray in this case by the Reference List in the new book, in which this stamp is only given in "purple on yellow wove," and no mention is made of other varieties, which I gather are to be regarded as actual reprints, though there seems to be no evidence as to the date at which they were manufactured.

I find that I chronicled the 1 abasi of this type in "purple on yellow wove" paper in the *Monthly Journal* for July, 1891, when I found a few copies amongst Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' stock, but I failed to note whether they were used or unused. The type, however, was at that time still in use, so that the copies then found were not reprints.

The varieties given in Mr. Bacon's list of reprints are:—

1889.

1 a., red on yellow wove.

1890.

I a., red-brown on orange ribbed bâtonné.
I a., black on pink "
I a., red-brown on yellow wove.
I a., green "
I a., black on lilac "
I a., magenta-purple wove.

I can find no record of the dates at which these were discovered, but if the dates assigned to them by Mr. Bacon are correct (which in all probability is the case) they also are not reprints.

In a review of the book by Sir D. P. Masson and Mr. Gordon Jones, in *The Journal of the Philatelic Literature Society* (which I had not seen when I wrote my notes for last month), Mr. Bacon says, very justly—

"As the 1 abasi, die I., the two abasi and the one rupee are found on precisely the same varieties of coloured paper, and in the same shades, showing that they were evidently printed at the same period as the admittedly fancy impressions, it seems to us that if the corresponding impressions of the die II. one abasi are reprints, those of the three other stamps must be also; and if these, why not many of the other varieties on coloured paper of which no used specimens are known, as early collectors, like the late Mr. Gilbert Harrison, considered to be the case?"

I quite agree that all might well be put on the same footing; but in that case none of them can strictly speaking be classed as *reprints*, since some of them were undoubtedly chronicled while the originals were in circulation.

While on the subject of Afghan stamps, I may mention that there is a note by Sir D. P. Masson, in *The Philatelic Journal of India* for March, pointing out that *The Times of India* is mistaken in stating, in a review of the Afghan book, that the second type of the 1 abasi is produced from the die of the first type "retouched." Careful comparison of the two should be quite sufficient to convince any one that this is quite impossible; but if further proof is needed, I can produce it in the shape of an unsevered pair of the two types, both struck in exactly the same colour, on the ordinary *white laid bâtonné* paper, showing that two dies were in existence and in use at the same time.

* * *

A Philatelic Bibliography

MR. HILMER DJURLING, of the *Sveriges Filatelist-Förening*, has most kindly sent me a copy of the second (unfortunately the last) edition of the "Bibliography of the most important Special Works upon the Stamps of Single Countries," compiled by the late Rudolf Krasemann. This special edition, consisting of one hundred copies only, was printed, I gather, for private circulation, but it is a most useful work, which should appeal to a very much larger circle of readers. It consists of a list, arranged alphabetically under the names of the different countries, of all the monographs and handbooks upon the stamps of each country, including also such works as those of the Royal Philatelic Society, dealing with groups of countries, Oceania, British North America, etc. etc. The list appears to be very complete and accurate; dates of publication are given, so that the student of the stamps of any particular country can see at a glance not only what books have been published on the subject, but which is the latest of them; and, in addition, an asterisk is placed against those which may be regarded as out of date, having been superseded by more recent works. What is now wanted is a supplementary list, or a greatly enlarged version of this book, containing references to all the special articles upon the stamps of the various countries which have appeared in the periodicals. For this, I fear, we must wait a good deal longer.

* * *

Argentine Republic

I HAVE received a copy of a book, which I gather forms part of a series of works upon the *Postage Stamps of the Argentine Republic*,* by Mr. Marco del Pont, a well-known authority upon the stamps of that part of the world.

* *Sellos Postales de la República Argentina. Sellos Rivadavia*, 1864-1872, por José Marcó del Pont.

An earlier portion of the series, dealing with the Stamps of the Argentine Confederation, appeared in 1902, and a translation of it was published in the *Monthly Journal*; we now have a similarly elaborate work upon the stamps with portrait of Rivadavia, ranging from 1864 to 1872, and I hope that further portions will follow in due course.

The book commences with a most interesting account of the negotiations which preceded the production of the stamps of 1864. It appears that it was decided as early as December, 1862, to obtain stamps, or plates, from Europe, with a design including the portrait of Don Bernardino Rivadavia, in place of the lithographed labels with the Arms of the Republic. Application was first made to M. Albert Barre, of Paris, who had produced the stamps of Buenos Ayres, 1860, but his charges were found to be somewhat excessive, and in the end the plates, paper, press, etc., were obtained from London, through Messrs. Anthony Gibbs and Sons, at a very much more reasonable price. Curiously enough it has been found impossible to discover who were the actual engraver of the dies and manufacturers of the plates. Messrs. Gibbs and Sons obtained the whole outfit from Messrs. William Brown and Co., of London, and the latter were unable to give any information, owing to the fact that their books had been destroyed by a fire. Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co. denied all knowledge of the plates, which is not perhaps surprising, since they were not produced by the Perkins process, being described as "copper (electro type)," a nature of plate which it seems has been more commonly used for line-engraved stamps than was at one time supposed.

Together with the plates, and a large supply of watermarked paper, moulds for making the paper were also supplied, but it does not appear that these were ever made use of, unwatermarked paper being employed when the stock of the watermarked was exhausted.

A detailed description of the so-called *laid* or *ribbed* varieties of the watermarked paper throws, I think, some light upon their nature. The lines are said to run in various directions, vertically, horizontally, obliquely, and even in some cases there appear to be both vertical and horizontal lines in the same specimens. The paper was invoiced as "Cream wove," and there can be little doubt that the *laid* or *ribbed* appearance was produced in the process of printing, as we know was the case with similar varieties of some of the stamps of the United States, which used to be listed upon *laid* paper.

After an account of the issue of 1867-8,

engraved and printed in New York, the book ends with the provisional issue of June, 1872, of the 5 c. printed from the old plate of the type of 1864.

The thanks of philatelists are due to Mr. Marco del Pont for this very complete history of an interesting series of stamps, compiled with his usual care.

* * *

United States

THE Melville Stamp Books reach me with such regularity and rapidity that I am hardly able to keep pace with them, and I now have two of them before me for review. The first, No. 3 of the series, deals with the *United States Postage Stamps, 1847-69*, and gives, as usual, a popular and at the same time a very complete and accurate account of the stamps of the period covered, including some of the most interesting of the U.S. issues. A perusal of the description of the *Premières Gravures* and the ordinary types of the stamps of 1861 shows me that illustrations *e* and *f* and *m* and *n*, in the new edition of Gibbons, have unfortunately been transposed, a fact of which collectors should make a note. In reference to the stamps of 1869 with inverted centres, etc., Mr. Melville says: "Three of the bicoloured stamps of the series are to be found with inverted centres, owing to errors on the plate or errors of printing." I believe that the original theory, to the effect that one impression of part of the design, on one of the two plates used for printing each of these values, was inverted, is entirely erroneous. It seems to have been based upon the fact that, whereas all the lower values of this series were issued in sheets of a hundred and fifty, the four higher values were in sheets of a hundred only. This was due, no doubt, to the anticipated difficulty of making the two impressions of the stamps fit accurately in printing from larger plates, but, as soon as copies with inverted centres were found, collectors jumped to the conclusion that there had been inverted impressions on the plates and that the latter (or the sheets printed from them) had been cut down from a hundred and fifty to one hundred stamps each, in order to get rid of the errors thus produced. No one, however, has ever seen an unsevered pair with the centre inverted on one and not on the other, and a block of at least one of the values is known with all the centres inverted. Moreover, the method of production renders such an error on the plate impossible, unless intentionally made, and it is in the last degree improbable that the manufacturers, who had made numbers of plates without any mistake, should at once begin to go astray with these bicoloured stamps and with them alone.

There can be no doubt that all the copies with inverted centres are due to mistakes in putting the sheets into the press for the second impression.

* * *

Gambia

NO. 4 of the series should prove even more attractive to British collectors, including as it does descriptions of the little sheets of stamps which have always been a temptation to even the most limited specialists. The early stamps of Gambia (1869 to 1897), with the embossed head of the Queen and the simple frame and ornamentation, are far more artistic than the vast majority of more recent labels, and one of the neat little sheets of fifteen with a sufficient margin round it is an ornament to any collection and does not take up too much space. Mr. Melville gives us illustrations of quite a number of these sheets, showing the perforations of the guillotine and the various comb machines; also the Sixpence with the curious slope in the tops of the two stamps in the upper corners, which seems gradually to have become more pronounced as time went on, until at last a new plate was made probably on account of this defect.

Even more useful to less advanced collectors are the illustrations, on a small scale, of a sheet of watermarked paper (showing the arrangement of the watermarks and marginal inscriptions, and the manner in which the sheets were in some cases cut up for the early stamps, the watermarks in which were very irregular in position); and of an entire sheet of one of the later stamps in two panes showing the plate numbers, on the back of which is printed an illustration of the watermarks, which can be seen in their places by holding the page up to the light. These illustrations will give collectors a far better idea of the watermarks and their relation to the stamps than any amount of explanation, and they alone should render the acquisition of the book desirable to any collector, whether interested in the stamps of Gambia or not.

* * *

"Susse" Perforations

THE curious, almost grotesque, style of perforation inflicted upon the stamps of France by Messrs. Susse Frères, in the days before the French Government had persuaded M. Hulot to supply his stamps perforated, has formed the subject of some very interesting articles, by Mr. Franz Reichenheim, in the *Monthly Report of the Herts Philatelic Society*. This gigantic perforation is of greater enormity of gauge, size of holes, and disastrous effects upon the stamps than any other, except perhaps the

tent-peg perforation of the worthy Postmaster of Bhopal, and although it was entirely unofficial, stamps thus perforated have always been recognized by collectors as legitimate varieties.

Mr. Reichenheim, in his paper in the January *Report*, gives a full-size illustration of the Circular issued by Messrs. Susse in January, 1861, the lower portion of which was perforated by their machine, as an illustration of what it would do, and he tells us that :—

"The real reason why Messrs. Susse Frères went to all that expense of perforating stamps free of charge for their clients, was, because they hoped to interest the Government in their process, and to be entrusted with perforating all the stamps required by the Post Office against payment; but they did not succeed, and as their machine had an accident and the Government reduced the commission on the sale of stamps from 2 per cent to 1 per cent on and after January 1, 1862, they stopped perforating stamps for their clients and sold their machine to a stamp dealer, Mr. A. Maury, who repaired it, and continued perforating stamps of the 1853-60 issue for collectors, but, as he was unable to readjust the machine properly, the perforations made by the repaired machine differ from that made by Messrs. Susse Frères.

"The principal differences between the stamps mostly perforated in single specimens by Mr. Maury, and those always perforated in sheets by Messrs. Susse Frères, are :—

"1. The teeth of the former are pointless, and have the appearance as if they were cut off by a pair of scissors,

"2. The teeth of the left and right sides of the stamp do not stand opposite each other,

"3. The holes are not perfectly round, whereas the teeth of single specimens torn off by hand from sheets perforated by Messrs. Susse Frères are usually rough and irregularly pointed and stand exactly opposite each other and the holes are perfectly round."

In addition to this it is satisfactory to learn that many of the stamps perforated by M. Maury are in shades which do not correspond with those of the stamps in circulation during the "Susse" period, and in such cases specimens with posthumous perforations can easily be recognized by specialists in the stamps of France.

In regard to the points of distinction specially described by Mr. Reichenheim, I regret to find that the firm of Maury disagrees with him as to two out of the three. In the May number of the *Report*, Mr. Reichenheim publishes a translation of a letter from the present head of the firm, in which it is stated that :—

"The Susse machine, sold by the inventors to Mr. Maury, has never been broken; the arrangement of the holes is exactly the same as it was in 1860, that is to say, they are all equidistant,

exactly opposite each other and all of round shape, as you can see for yourself in the enclosed white sheet" [of which a full-size plate is given] "which we have had passed under the perforating machine."

The first point of distinction is acknowledged to hold good; the stamps perforated by M. Maury were, invariably, I gather, single copies, which had already been separated with the scissors, and therefore showed clean-cut ends to the teeth; in other respects the perforation should be identical with that of the originals, and it is difficult to understand how it could possibly be otherwise. The illustration of the sheet of paper sent by M. Maury shows that the machine must have been what is termed a "harrow" machine, with the pins set in a frame so as to perforate a block of fifty stamps (five horizontal rows of ten) at each descent. These pins must presumably have worked into a bed-plate, and any readjustment, altering the relative positions of the pins, would have necessitated at least a new bed-plate, and probably a fresh set of pins, which would have produced a practically different perforation. Comparison, however, of the illustration, given in January, of the specimen published by Messrs. Susse, with that given in May, of perforation produced by M. Maury, shows that the latter is quite correct in stating that they are exactly the same.

One paragraph in M. Maury's letter somewhat puzzled me. He says :—

"The Susse perforator had the serious disadvantage of being a little smaller than the stamp, and therefore cuts considerably into the design, mostly at the margins of the sheet. The specimens which we obtained were arranged at a certain distance from each other, and are therefore better centred than the originals; this is another help towards their recognition."

I suppose this must mean that the stamps were always carefully affixed in alternate spaces on sheets prepared for passing through the machine; any extra spacing less than this would have resulted in the stamps being more badly centred than ever.

Mr. Reichenheim suggests that if the stamps were not pasted accurately into the spaces on the sheet, the result would be that the teeth of the perforations at each side would not be exactly opposite to one another, as in his second test. But this would only apply to specimens set distinctly crooked, and would be an occasional and accidental test, not a general one; whereas Mr. Reichenheim finds it to be the case with all the "Maury" perforated copies that he has examined.

With reference to the third point of distinction, the illustrations appear to me to show that the pins have become a little bit worn, and possibly the holes in the bed-

plate have become enlarged, so that the machine no longer perforates as cleanly as it did originally; this deterioration may be still more apparent when the perforation is applied to single stamps, pasted on a sheet of paper.

The whole question is an interesting one, and there is no philatelist better qualified to discuss it than the author of the papers to which I have referred.

* * *

Falkland Islands

IN January last I referred to an article on the stamps of these islands, which had appeared in *The West End Philatelist* of the previous month, and I mentioned some curious facts discovered by the writer (Mr. B. W. H. Poole), which seemed very difficult of explanation. I have now received from Mr. Field a reprint of the article, in book form, containing additional information which clears up the most important of the doubtful points. First of all it is made certain that all the Queen's Head stamps were printed by Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson, and Co., and all have the same perforation, about $1\frac{1}{4}$. The Secretary of the Company has furnished Mr. Poole with some very interesting information as to the construction of the plates; thus we learn that "the original die consisted of the portrait only, the border being separately engraved for each value." The borders, however, were reproduced by machinery, that of the 1d. being probably engraved first and those of the 6d. and 1s. copied from it, I suppose by means of the pantograph or some similar contrivance, thus accounting for the great accuracy of the reproduction. There are certain tiny dots in the left lower spandrel of the design, one of which is found on every stamp on the sheets of the 1d., 4d., and 1s., and the other on all except the stamps in the bottom of each sheet; neither of them occurs on the 6d. The presence and the absence of these dots are not yet accounted for; their position is apparently so uniform that they cannot be guide dots, besides which there are undoubtedly guide dots which can be recognized elsewhere. For the 1d., 6d., and 1s. steel plates were made by the usual roller process of transfer, but for the 4d. an electro-type was taken of the entire plate of the 1s., and a fresh value tablet inserted for each stamp on the plate, the position of the tablet varying slightly in certain of the stamps. The latter is an extremely interesting piece of information, showing that we have all of us been mistaken in supposing that line-engraved stamps have always been printed in this country from steel plates produced by the Perkins Bacon process; it accounts for the fact that identically the same little

flaws, etc., are found in the same position on the sheets of the 4d. and 1s. stamps.

Mr. Poole is to be congratulated upon his success in bringing to light some fresh information relating to the manufacture of stamps, a subject which it is so necessary for all philatelists to study.

* * *

Dhar

IN *The London Philatelist* for March there is a letter from a correspondent stating that the value on the $\frac{1}{2}$ pice stamp of this State is expressed as "half dubl"; he adds "Dub" is the common bazaar name for "pice," but I have not before seen that final. Probably it is a local variant."

The same information as to the literal translation of the inscription was sent me in January, 1902, and I published it in the *Monthly Journal* of that date. My informant stated that the word used there for *pice* was "dābāl," written "dbl," and pronounced like *double*. This same value *pice* is still, I see, confused with *pie* by some writers; a German journal, in chronicling the new Charkari stamps, states that the 1 pice is $\frac{1}{2}$ of an anna, which is quite wrong; 12 *pies* = 1 anna; 3 *pies* = 1 pice = $\frac{1}{4}$ anna.

* * *

Silk Threads

IN the same number of *The L. P.* there is a letter on the subject of the silk threads in some of the early stamps of Germany and Switzerland, and asking for notes of varieties of these stamps with the threads on the front of the paper instead of on the back. The description is not quite accurate, as the threads were not on the surface of the paper, but in its substance; but no doubt they were intended to be more visible on one side than on the other, and there was thus a *right* and a *wrong* side to the paper, though it is difficult to understand why the *right* side should have been that on which the threads were less apparent, if indeed such was originally the intention.

WATERMARK DETECTOR

Many Collectors experience great difficulty in detecting the Watermarks in some Stamps, such as Barbados Stars, United States, 1904 issues, etc. etc. We have therefore put into stock a small contrivance for holding Benzine, which does not affect either the colour or the gum on a Stamp, and reveals the watermark instantly. This is a most useful little article and is in constant use in our offices every day of the year.

Price 1s.; post-free in Great Britain, 1s. 2d.

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.,
391 Strand, London, W.C.

New Issues and Discoveries

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Antigua.—A correspondent has shown us copies of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. all green; specimen copies of this stamp, as well as of the 1d., were noted by a German paper in March, 1908.



1909. Type 4. Wmk. Multiple Crown C A, Type w. 8.
Perf. 14.
41½d., green, O.

Austrian P.O.'s in the Levant.—The under-chromed variety has been shown to us by Mr. R. A. V. Morris.



5-II

1890-2. Type 11 (of Austria) with lower figures of value removed, surcharged as Type 5, in black.
(e) Perf. compound of 10, 10½, and 11, 12.
68a 11 | 10 pa. on 3kr., blue-green.

Mr. Wm. Ward has shown us a copy of the current 1 piastre on white paper, and in our stock we find numerous copies on azure toned paper; No. 119 in the Catalogue is listed on blue paper, but a more correct description of this would be greenish blue.



7

1908-9. Type 7. Perf. 12½.
119a 1 pi., deep blue on azure.
119b 1 pi., deep blue (on white).

Bosnia.—Mr. Ad. Passer has shown us a number of varieties of perforation, some of which we list below, and others to which we will merely make reference.

In our Catalogue the note following No. 142 should read as follows:—

"Some of the above values are known *imperf.*, and the 20 h., 40 h., and 45 h., *perf.* 6½; all values are known *perf. compound* of 12½ and 6½, and *compound* of 12½ and 10½."



2

3

JAN. 1, 1900. Types 2 (heller values) and 3.

(c) *Perf. compound of 12½ and 10½.*

- 134a 1 (h.), grey-black.
- 134b 2 (h.), pearl-grey.
- 135a 5 (h.), yellow-green.
- 135b 6 (h.), bistre.
- 136a 25 (h.), blue.
- [136b] 30 (h.), pale bistre,)*
- 136c 50 (h.), mauve.
- 136d 1 k., carmine.
- 136e 2 k., ultramarine.
- 136f 5 k., deep blue-green.

* This stamp is listed as No. 136a; it should be 136b, as above.

1906-7. Types 4 to 19. *Perf. 6½.*

- 174a 1 (h.), black.
- 174b 2 (h.), violet.
- 174c 3 (h.), olive-yellow.
- 174d 5 (h.), deep green.
- 174e 6 (h.), orange-brown.
- 174f 10 (h.), carmine.
- 174g 20 (h.), deep brown.
- 174h 25 (h.) deep blue.
- 174i 30 (h.), green.
- 174j 35 (h.), blue-black.
- 174k 40 (h.), orange.
- 174l 45 (h.), orange-red.
- 174m 50 (h.), purple.
- 174n 1 k., lake-red.
- 174o 2 k., bronze-green.
- 174p 5 k., grey-blue.



5x

POSTAGE DUE STAMPS. Type 51.	
(b) Perf. 10½.	
314	1 h., black, red, and yellow.
317	5 h. " "
319	7 h. " "
	Perf. 9.
	1 h., black, red, and yellow.
2 h.	" "
4 h.	" "
8 h.	" "
	(c) Perf. 12½, 13, and 10½ compound.
322	4 h., black, red, and yellow.
322a	5 h. " "
322b	6 h. " "
322c	7 h. " "
	(d) Perf. 12½, 13, and 9 compound.
329	4 h., black, red, and yellow.
332	8 h. " "

Fiji Islands.—A correspondent has shown us a copy of the 1s. on multiple, surfaced paper.



23

1909. Type 23. Name and tablet of value in second colour. Wmk. Multiple Crown CA, Type w. 8. Perf. 14. 206| 1s., green and carmine, C.

Gold Coast.—The C.O.J. announces that the following stamps have been supplied:—

To be issued shortly.

2d., greyish slate, O.

3d., purple on yellow, C.

Norway.—We have received a copy of the 2 kroner, rose-carmine, first issued on August 10, 1907, printed from a new die. The new stamp is larger than its predecessor, measuring 21 mm. in height, as against 20 mm. The shading on the face of King Haakon is composed of tiny dots instead of heavy lines, and there is no lapel showing on the coat as there was formerly. There are many other minor points of difference between the two dies, but they are too small to be shown by an illustration.

In listing the issue of August 10, 1907, in the Catalogue, we find we have made two curious errors. First, all three stamps, Nos. 137 to 139, should not be described as "No wmk.," as they are watermarked with the usual posthorn, Type 7. Second, No. 139 is described as "1 kr.," which is a printer's error for "2 kr."



15

1909. Type 15 (but new die, 21 mm. high). Wmk. Type 7. Perf. 14½×13½. 146| 2 kr., rose-carmine.

Russia.—We list below two more values of the new set on wove paper, coated with varnish lines.



8

APRIL, 1909. Type 8, with thunderbolts added. Eagle embossed in white, centre in first colour. Wove paper with intersecting varnish lines diagonally on the surface. No wmk. Perf. 14, 14½.

14 k., rose and blue.

15 k., ultramarine and pale magenta.

St. Kitts-Nevis.—According to a correspondent of *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (8.5.09) the 2d. multiple stamp was issued on surfaced paper on February 28.



1

FEB. 28, 1909. Type 1. Centre in first colour. Wmk. Multiple Crown CA, Type w. 8. Perf. 14. 13| 2d., dull purple and brown, C.

St. Vincent.—We find that a 5s., green and blue, C, has been included in the Addenda to our Catalogue under No. 92, but Mr. Heginbottom draws our attention to the fact that *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* stated some time back on official authority that the stamp did not exist. Unfortunately we omitted to make the correction before.

Surinam.—As was to be expected, the 5c., red, perforated has turned up in *tête-bêche* pairs like the roulette stamp.



14

MARCH, 1909. Type 14. Perf. 11½×10½. Variety. *Tête-bêche* (pair). 106| 5 c., red.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 23
Whole No. 231

JUNE 5, 1909

VOL. IX.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

Guatemala—continued

(Continued from page 345)

Provisionals of 1898—continued

Square Fiscal Stamps (1895 issue)

In September, 1898, the 1 c. and 2 c., as well as the 6 c. (already provided for in previous group) were exhausted, and no fiscal postage stamps being available for provisionals recourse was had to fiscal stamps.

The 1 c. of the 1895 issue was overprinted "CORREOS NACIONALES" in red to form a 1 c. postage stamp, whilst it was surcharged with a new value to form the 2 c. The quantities issued are given in brackets.



**CORREOS
NACIONALES**
2
CENTAVOS

Sept., 1898. Fiscal stamps overprinted or surcharged in red.

	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
1 c., indigo (150,000)	. 0 1	0 2
2 c. on 1 c., indigo (110,000)	. 0 4	0 3

Tall Fiscal Stamps (1898 issue)

These were engraved and printed by Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, Ltd., London, and are attractive-looking stamps, but care should be taken in floating used copies, as the fiscal stamps are printed in colours that are easily dissolved in water. The first provisionals made from them were 40,000 2 c., surcharged on the 1 c., in September, 1898. Other values were utilized in the following month to make more 1 c. and 2 c., and in December of the same year a quantity of 6 c. was created by surcharging the higher values of this type. The surcharges were either in black or red, and the total quantities issued of each provisional are given in

brackets. The Catalogue lists the 2 c. on 5 c., and 2 c. on 10 c., with black surcharge. If these are bona fide they should be classed as errors of the red surcharges. The 2 c. on 1 c., with red surcharge, is believed to be an essay. Many other varieties exist, but it is to be feared they are of a speculative nature.



Sept.-Dec., 1898. Fiscal stamps surcharged.

Perf. 14, 15.

In black.

	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
2 c. on 1 c., magenta (40,000)	. 0 3	—
2 c. on 25 c., rose-red (14,300)	. 0 9	—
6 c. on 1 p., violet (20,000)	. 0 8	—
6 c. on 5 p., violet-blue (10,000)	. 2 0	—
6 c. on 10 p., emerald (10,000)	. 1 6	1 6

In red.

1 c. on 10 c., blue-green (150,000)	. 0 3	—
2 c. on 5 c., violet (103,500)	. 0 3	0 2
2 c. on 10 c., blue-green (22,200)	. 1 6	—
2 c. on 50 c., deep blue (10,000)	. 1 3	1 3

A German paper chronicled in May, 1899, the receipt of the tall fiscal 1 c. magenta stamp overprinted in black with "Correos Nacionales" without any change in value. The Catalogue lists it under No. 157 as with three lines of overprint, but this is an error, the "1898" being already inscribed on the stamp.

A little later the same paper stated that such stamps were made by a postal official of a remote district without authority and were never properly issued; collectors should

therefore ignore them. About this time also attempts were being made to put on the market various stamps overprinted "Franco," but these were bogus, and as a matter of fact there was then little if any need for provisionals, as the authorities had replenished the stocks of ordinary postage stamps. Reference has already been made to a further supply of the 10 c.

In September, however, the usual value, 1 c., again ran out, and 50,000 of the demonetized 5 c. of 1888 were, by a decree dated September 9, 1899, ordered to be surcharged for this purpose, and were duly issued. This supply was ridiculously meagre, and small wonder that another was soon wanted. In February, 1900, the 1 c. on 10 c. already mentioned were put on sale, 500,000 stamps being surcharged.



1899-1900. Stamps of 1886-94 surcharged.

	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
1 c. in red on 5 c., violet .	0 1	0 1
1 c. in black on 10 c., red .	0 2	0 2



By a decree of June 11, 1900, several values were changed in colour to agree with Postal Union requirements, and by it also all old stamps (including provisionals), with the exception of 50 c., 75 c., 100 c., 150 c., and 200 c., were demonetized. The colours of the 20 c. and 25 c. were changed respectively to mauve and yellow, but in August, 1902, they appeared in brown and blue-green. Ten thousand each of these were printed without orders from the Government and, apparently, without any reason for the change. Still they were put on sale and must be included in the lists. The 5 c. was of the type with thick figure.

June, 1900-2. As 1886-92. Colours changed.

	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
1 c., deep green .	0 1	0 1
2 c., rose-red .	0 1	0 1
5 c., blue .	0 4	0 4
6 c., pale green .	0 4	0 2
10 c., brown .	0 4	0 2
20 c., bright mauve .	0 9	0 9
20 c., deep brown (1902) .	1 0	1 0
25 c., yellow .	1 0	0 9
25 c., blue-green (1902) .	1 6	1 6

The above stamps were the last printed by the American Bank Note Co., for early in 1902 the stamp-printing contract was transferred to Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, of London. The supplies of the new colours lasted very well, for until the Waterlow stamps were issued only a few provisionals were needed.

In May and July, 1901, the demonetized 25 c. and 20 c. were respectively utilized to make some 1 c. and 2 c., and in June, 1902, the fiscal stamps were again requisitioned for a supply of these values and also of the 6 c. The quantities issued, where known, are given in brackets.



UN
I
CENTAVO
1901
II.

May-July, 1901. Stamps of 1886-94 surcharged in black.

	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
1 c. on 20 c., green (I.) .	0 1	0 2
1 c. on 25 c., orange (II.) .	0 2	—
2 c. on 20 c., green (I.) .	0 2	0 2



1 CORREOS NACIONALES 1 1902 2 CORREOS NACIONALES 2 1902
UN 1 CTV DOS 2 CTS.

June, 1902. Square fiscal stamps as before, surcharged in red.

	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
1 c. on 1 c., indigo (50,000) .	0 2	—
2 c. on 1 c. . . (50,000) .	0 2	—

CORREOS

1902

Seis 6 Cts.

Tall fiscal stamps as before, surcharged in black.

	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
6 c. on 25 c., rose-red (100,000) .	0 4	—

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Stock Books, and are, therefore, the Prices at which Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., will have pleasure in supplying any of the stamps that may be needed by any of our readers.

Topical Notes

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

Death of Mr. W. B. Thornhill

DEATH has carried away many old friends this last year or so, and now I hear that we have lost another of the few that are left of the collectors of twenty-five years ago.

On May 6 my old friend Mr. W. B. Thornhill passed away, after a long and painful illness, at his home in Ireland. The cause of death was consumption, and only the outdoor life that Mr. Thornhill led for many years enabled him to combat it so long.

The late Mr. Thornhill was one of the philatelists of the period 1882 to 1892. He formed many specialized collections, notably Australians, Ceylon, and Shanghai. In the Australians he *plated* such stamps as the New South Wales "Sydney," "Laureated," Tasmania 1d. and 4d., and so on; his New South Wales were sold *en bloc* for close on £200, about 1892, to a well-known Parisian collector.

I well remember, just after the New South Wales 3d. Laureated had been found with the error of wmk. "2", with what eagerness he examined his plate, and his delight at finding one of these rarities in his reconstructed sheet.

About 1887 he kept me over an hour at his house arguing as to whether he should purchase a Victoria first issue 2d., fine background and fine border, *unused* (from David Hill's collection), at £6, as he thought the price excessive; but he took it, and now I could at any time get £100 for the same stamp.

Mr. Thornhill joined the Philatelic Society, London, about 1886, and he read a good few interesting papers at meetings, such as: "Short History of Postal Affairs in New South Wales from 1810 to 1856" (May 18, 1888); "Adhesive Stamps of Ceylon to the end of 1870" (March 8, 1889).

In 1895 Mr. Thornhill wrote for our publishers' series of Philatelic Handbooks, the one entitled *Shanghai*, and shortly after his fine collection of the stamps of that country passed into the possession of Mr. Henry Duveen.

When I first knew him Mr. Thornhill lived in Redcliffe Gardens, Kensington, but about 1896 he left London and settled in Ireland, and practically gave up stamp collecting in favour of collecting shells and sea-dredging round the Irish coast.

Through his wife Mr. Thornhill was related to the late Earl of Kingston, a former President of the Philatelic Society.

Useful Tweezers

A CUSTOMER writes to our publishers as follows:—

"I am very much indebted for excellent pair of tweezers.

"You may be interested to know that my former pair from you snapped (at the spring) last week whilst I was attempting to prize back a window-catch, after fifteen months' hard wear in handling stamps, picking locks, opening cases, lifting young mice from their nest, catching spiders and worms for a pen of bantams I possess, pulling splinters, nails, etc., and many another service I cannot for the moment recollect.

"You may be sure how I felt a day without them."

A Cool Request from Iceland

MR. S. EINARSSON, of Reykjavik, has the impudence to write and ask us to price the Iceland "I GILDI" 25 aur, black overprint, inverted, at £15 each.

If we do this in our next Catalogue, Mr. Einarsson offers to present us with a used and an unused copy of this precious stamp (').

We have never yet accepted a bribe for giving a fictitious value to a stamp, and have no intention of doing so now or in the future.

Proposed Philatelic Society for Bolton

MR. H. O. MOSCROP,
91 Thicketford Road,
Tong Moor,
Bolton,

writes me that at the request of a few local collectors a preliminary meeting will shortly be called for the purpose of forming the above Society.

Mr. Moscrop will be glad to hear from any collector residing in or near Bolton.

Reserve Stock of British Colonials

WE think that the time has now come to put on sale some of the reserve stock of unused British Colonials which we hold.

This "reserve" does not include any great rarities, but many very desirable stamps will be found in it, ranging in price from one penny to perhaps three or four pounds each.

The chief point about these stamps is that they are *all mint*, and all *well centred*. We have only been stocking the *best* in certain lines. Taking advantage of the issue of the Sectional Imperial Album, we have decided to mount up a number of countries, which will be arranged as follows:—

- 1st. The finest single specimens on the printed pages of the new album.
- 2nd. Mint blocks of four.
- 3rd. Pairs and strips showing plate numbers, corner numbers, or any marginal inscriptions.
- 4th. Singles or pairs of interesting shades and varieties.
- 5th. Full panes of stamps where there are interesting varieties of type or surcharge.

We have now arranged and put on sale:—

Mauritius and British Guiana. Either of these countries can be sent on approval to collectors who desire stamps in *extra fine* condition.

The special terms on these books will be the same to one and all, viz.:—

For a purchase of under £5 from any one country, no discount; over £5 at one time from one country, 10 per cent. discount.

No extra discount will be allowed whatever amount of stamps may be kept.

We prefer to keep this class of stamps as an investment until we can obtain our prices.

Description of New Stock Books arranged and priced recently

Hanover, Lubeck, and Mecklenburg.

THE Hanover are a fine lot. Most issues include a good many mint copies in shades, and there are a number of good stamps with the dates 1859, 1860, and 1862 in the lower margin, and a fair lot with the marginal numbers.

The Lubeck include a fine lot of Class A with full gum, which are so much scarcer than the specimens without gum. Lubeck used are poorly represented, and these stamps are certainly rare with genuine cancellations.

Mecklenburg-Schwerin are a grand lot, especially strong in mint specimens, both in blocks and singles.

Mecklenburg-Strelitz good in unused, but very poor in used.

Jammu and Kashmir.

A very fine book, affording a grand choice of stamps, including some scarce full sheets. There are a number of really rare stamps in this book, such as the 1 anna, emerald-green, of 1874; 1 anna, black, of 1877, and many others. The *circular* stamps include number of whole envelopes.

Jhind, Kishengarh, Nepaul, Nowanuggur and Poonch.

A very strong lot indeed, these countries having been much strengthened by some recent purchases. In *Jhind*, *Nepaul*, and *Nowanuggur* there are some very interesting full sheets, which are not now often to be met with. There are also many uncatalogued varieties, and this book is one that will well repay a little study. The stamps are all cheap now, and once our stock is exhausted prices are sure to advance, as we shall not be able to replenish, for these are stamps that are little held by any other dealers.

Sirmoor, Soruth, and Travancore.

A very interesting lot of stamps. The Sirmoor are a good lot, being especially strong in the "Official stamps," in which we have found some unrecorded varieties. The Soruth are interesting, and include a number of full sheets. This is the last of the stock books of the Indian Native States, which, on the whole, is one of the best series of these books that we have had for many years.

Bargains

WE seem to be selling greater bargains than ever in our stock books. We recently made up a stock book of a certain country. Several collectors went through it, including a noted specialist in Brighton!! Yet on May 10 to a dealer, while waiting in our shop, bought a stamp from this book for 3d., and the following day offered us the same stamp for £15, and it is well worth that price. The dealer was our friend Mr. Hadlow; the variety my readers must find out for themselves, as I am still hunting for other copies at 3d. each.

The Voyage of Vasco da Gama As shown on the 1898 issue of Portugal

By H. G. JOBSON

BEFORE commencing the narrative of Vasco da Gama's voyage to India, it would be well to make some mention of the royal explorer, Prince Henry the Navigator, without whose interest in the discovery of new lands the Portuguese would probably have never been sufficiently roused from their apathy to send da Gama on his

mission of finding a route round the south of Africa to the Indies and Cathay.

In the opening years of the fifteenth century this prince had established himself at Sagres—now Cape St. Vincent—and was preparing a scheme of discovery. To this end he rebuilt the arsenal, erected a palace and observatory on the cape, and summoned

to his Court the best mathematicians and sailors of his age.

The discoveries made by him and his navigators paved the way for those of Columbus and da Gama at the close of the century.

In 1492 the Portuguese King, Emmanuel the Great, was much disturbed by the fact that the discovery of America by Columbus under the patronage of Spaniards brought them, as was then supposed, perilously near to the golden shores of China and Japan.

In 1497, therefore, he commissioned four ships, under the command of Vasco da Gama, who seemed the man with the greatest abilities for such an enterprise, to sail round the Cape to India, establishing cordial relations with the various chiefs and sultans on the way. The admiral embarked at Rastello on the flagship *San Gabriel*, as shown on the 10 r. and 100 r. stamps of the Commemorative Issue. The fleet, consist-

G. S. W.] The name Natal was given to a fruitful country at which the expedition arrived on Christmas Day, hence its title, from Dies Natalis, the Day of the Nativity. Proceeding northwards, Delagoa Bay (afterwards so called because it was an anchorage



for ships returning from Goa—*de la Goa*) was passed, and the fleet anchored at the mouth of the Zambesi, which the explorers called "the River of Good Tidings," as there they heard of a civilized country to the north.

During the next few weeks the crews were much troubled by scurvy. This disease caused the hands, feet, and gums of the sailors to swell terribly, and it was only through the care of their commander that they reached Mozambique in safety. The best description of this city and its inhabitants is given in *A Century of Discovery*, from which the following is taken:

"Their clothing was very rich bright-striped robes of linen and cotton, turbans of glistening silks interwoven with gold thread, and Moorish swords and daggers. Near the harbour lay Moorish merchants' ships, very large, but without decks, and the planks held together without nails, by means of bast, which was prepared from the shell of the cocoa-nut. The sails consisted of matting made of palm leaves, and the whole rigging was very scanty. Yet these miserable vessels made long voyages to sea, and, to the astonishment of the admiral, were well provided with compasses, quadrants, and charts. They were laden with gold and silver, cloth, cloves, pepper, pearls, and precious stones; and the natives stated that all these commodities were to be found in a country not far distant."

ing of the *San Gabriel*, *San Raphael*, and *Berrio*, left the Tagus on June 8, as depicted



on the lowest value, 2½ r. By the end of November they had weathered the terrible Cape, and were sailing along shores hitherto unknown. Adamastor, the mythical guardian of the Cape of Good Hope, is represented on the 75 r. His name is derived from the Greek *ἀδάμαστος*, and means "The Inexorable." [Though the design is generally admitted to be as described, some people say the figure is intended for the "Archangel Gabriel, as patron of the expedition, protecting and guarding the flagship which bears his name." Can any reader say authoritatively which is correct?—ED.

Local pilots steered the fleet to Quiloa and Mombasa, where the explorers met with but a cold reception. Proceeding hence to Melinde, they were well received by the local sheikh, in whose honour, and perhaps also with an idea of impressing him, flags were hoisted and salutes fired. Here they took on board supplies and a pilot who knew the Indian Ocean well, and on April 24, 1498, left the African coast and stood boldly out towards India, which was sighted at Cananore after twenty days' sailing. The vessels, however, kept on southwards till they reached Calicut. Their arrival there

forms the subject of the 5 r. Da Gama then sent on shore a message that he was desirous of exchanging his gold and merchandise for



pepper and spices of India ; he also stated that his ships were the vanguard of a fleet of fifty, from which he had been parted by a hurricane. This latter was, of course, only to impress the Zamorin or Sultan of Calicut, then the chief port of India, on account of its trade, which was in the hands of Moors from Cairo. These merchants quickly saw that the arrival of the Portuguese would greatly endanger their trade, especially if the new-comers should find favour with the Zamorin. By these men a rumour was spread that the peaceful merchants were, in reality, the forerunners of an invading army. By bribing the officials at the Court this report reached the palace, though at the same time the Portuguese were informed of it by a Christianized Moor and advised to go warily. An embassy was at once despatched to obtain a guarantee of peace from the Zamorin, and, on this being given, a depot was opened in the town with a stock-in-trade of "a chest of one hundred-weight of branch coral, and as much vermillion, and a barrel of quicksilver, fifty pigs of copper, twenty strings of large cut coral, and as much of amber." As the traders took in exchange for their coral, etc., adulterated goods, the Moors represented to the Zamorin that this was a proof of their falsehood, and that he should arrest the next embassy. When da Gama landed on the morrow he was told the Zamorin could not give him an audience, as he was away hunting. The admiral then put back to his ship,



remarking that he would come again when the Sultan was ready to receive him. Upon this step he was quickly granted the audience shown on the Postage Due stamps of 1898. He was so graciously received by the potentate that the Moors and the King's

chamberlain, or catual, conspired to kidnap him. In this they were successful, but owing to da Gama's firmness and the fact that his own sailors had managed to capture some nairs, or nobles, an exchange of prisoners was effected.

A day or two later the squadron weighed anchor, with dire threats of revenge if ever they returned. Turning their prows northwards, the fleet next touched at Cananor, where they were warmly welcomed ; but the crews were eager for home, and soon set sail for Melinde in November, 1499. What, however, had taken them but one month to cover on the outward voyage now occupied, owing to calms and baffling winds, three months. To add to their hardships, scurvy broke out, and many died, only about seven or eight of a crew being able to navigate the vessel. At length, in answer to their prayers, a wind rose which in six days carried them to Magadoxo, port north of Melinde. After a few days' rest to recover their strength they proceeded southwards to Melinde, where they were welcomed with joy by their old friend the King, who, as a token of his regard for the Portuguese, allowed da Gama to erect a pillar. On the way south the *San Raphae* showed signs of breaking up, so, after her crew and cargo had been transhipped, she was burned to the water's edge. On February 1, 1499, they arrived at San Jose Island, off Mozambique, where they erected a pillar, rain falling so heavily that the fire to melt the lead for fixing the cross at the top could not be lighted.

The fleet, now reduced to two ships, passed the Cape with a favourable breeze on March 20. Near the Cape Verde Islands the *Berrio* and *San Gabriel* parted company, the former reaching Portugal seven weeks before the flagship, which was detained at Azores by the death of the admiral's brother Paul, whose body was interred on Terceira.

Da Gama entered the Tagus early in September, and was at once received by his sovereign, who created him Admiral of the Indies and settled on him a large pension.

No mention need be made in this article of da Gama's two subsequent voyages to India, as they are not dealt with on the stamps of his country, and only tarnish the fame of a great sailor.

**STANLEY GIBBONS
PRICED CATALOGUE OF
THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF THE WORLD**

**Vol. I. Great Britain and Colonies.
Post-free, 2s. 9d.**

**Vol. II. The Rest of the World.
Post-free, 2s. 10d.**

The Postage Stamps of Belgium—*contd.*

By CH. DE BONT

(ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.)

(Continued from page 346.)
ISSUES OF OCTOBER 15 AND NOVEMBER 15,
1896, AND JANUARY 11, 1897.

IN order to commemorate the International Exhibition, held at Brussels in 1907, the Department of Railways, Posts, and Telegraphs decided to issue special stamps. Accordingly it was de-



ne pas livrer le Dimanche
niet bestellen op Zondag



Bruxelles
Brussel 18-97
10c
POSTES-POSTERUEN
NE PAS LIVRER LE DIMANCHE.
NIET BESTELLEN OP ZONDAG

cided to hold a competition for the most appropriate designs, the following being the regulations issued to competitors:—

“MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, POSTS, AND TELEGRAPHS.

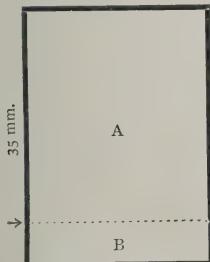
“ADMINISTRATION OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

“Concerning a Competition for the designs of Postage Stamps.

“1. All Belgian artists are invited to submit designs for a postage stamp intended to commemorate the International Exhibition to be held at Brussels in 1907. The design must be suitable for reproduction by the surface-printing process; it will have to undergo one transfer, and will then be engraved on steel.

“2. The design must admit of a stamp being prepared, exactly rectangular, and measuring 35 mm. in height, and 24 mm. in width. It must be composed of two portions, A and B, which, on the finished sheets, will be divided by a line of perforation, thus rendering the label B detachable.

24 mm.



“The portion A is intended to be used for the stamp proper, and must contain the following inscriptions:—

“BRUXELLES—1907—BRUXELLES”

“POSTES—POSTERIJEN”

Space must also be left for a circular medallion to contain two figures of value; these must be very prominent.

“The portion B, forming the detachable label, must be exactly 7 mm. high, measuring to the centre of space left for the perforation; it must be inscribed:—

“NE PAS LIVRER LE DIMANCHE”

“NIET BESTELLEN OP ZONDAG”

“The space left for perforation between A and B must be exactly 1 1/2 mm. high, and the detaching of the label must not detract from the design of the stamp, nor must the inscriptions mentioned above (Bruxelles, etc.) be severed from it.

“The design intended for the portion A may be disposed either upright or sideways, but the inscriptions on the label (B) must be in two lines, running parallel with the longest sides of it.

“3. The designs submitted may be conceived with a view to their being printed in either one or two colours.

“The size of designs is to be 10 times linear (or 100 the area) of the stamp as it is to be printed.

“Designs must be executed wholly in black ink, on a very white paper, and must be completely finished, so that no retouching will be necessary; paper should be used of such a size that there will be a margin 5 cms. wide all round the drawing.

“Competitors are required to note particularly that the dimensions given above must be adhered to exactly, and also that they should make the drawings complete down to the smallest details.

“4. Competitors are required to submit:—

(a) The design from which it is intended the engraving of the stamp shall be made; exactly as detailed under paragraph 3.

(b) If the design is intended for a two-colour process, a key sketch showing the dispositions of the colours.

(c) A photograph of the design, reduced to the actual size of the finished stamp (see paragraph 2). A coloured photograph of the correct size may also be submitted if desired.

“5. Designs shall be unsigned and free of all indication as to whose they are. The name and address of each competitor shall be placed in a plain sealed envelope, giving no indication of its contents, which must be sent in with the design.

“Designs and photographs are to be enclosed in a plain sealed envelope, giving no indication of their owners' names and addresses. The designs and annexed envelopes are to be handed to Monsieur Barbeau, Chief Engineer, Director of Telegraphs, at the Head Office of the Posts and Telegraphs, situate in the Place de la Monnaie, Brussels.

“All competitors infringing any of the above

regulations will be excluded from participation in the competition, as also will those who do not submit their designs by March 31, 1896, at the latest.

" 6. The efforts of competitors will be submitted to a committee composed of artists and of Government officials.

" 7. A prize of 100 francs will be awarded to the author of the design which is adjudged the best from an artistic and utilitarian point of view, provided always that it be suitable for reproduction by surface-printing.

" On a recommendation of the committee, the Minister of Railways, Posts, and Telegraphs shall be at liberty to raise the above amount to 1500 francs; he may also award a second prize of 1000 francs to any design other than the best, which shall be adjudged worthy of being used for reproduction.

" In addition to this a sum not less than 500 francs nor more than 1000 francs will be divided amongst certain of the unsuccessful competitors, in the order of merit of their designs.

" The Minister of Railways, Posts, and Telegraphs reserves the right to withdraw the first prize should none of the designs be suitable for use.

" 8. The authors of designs for which prizes are awarded will be allowed to add their initials or monogram to their designs.

" 9. Successful designs shall become the absolute property of the Department of Railways, Posts and Telegraphs, to use in any way that may be thought advisable, and without being under any obligation to make any other payment whatsoever for them, other than the prize money.

" Unsuccessful designs will be returned to their authors.

" 10. Competitors must agree that, until the prizes have been awarded—

(a) They will not publish, nor allow to be published, any reproduction, partial or otherwise, of designs submitted.

(b) They will not allow to come into the possession of a third party any copy, cliché, or other reproduction by any process, of their designs.

" Authors of successful designs must agree to deliver to the official named for the purpose all copies, clichés, or other reproductions of their work, without any exception.

" If this agreement be broken, the competitor shall be excluded from the competition.

" The committee will be composed of the following members:—

Artists.	Government Officials.
MM. BORDIAU.	MM. BANNEUX.
E. BROERMAN.	LECLERCQ.
ALB. DERRIEUDT.	R. BOUHIN.
JEAN ROBIE."	

(To be continued.)

A Type Collection Its Advantages and How to Form One

By BERTRAM W. H. POOLE

WE have been told by many writers that the trend of the moment is back to the good old-fashioned idea of general collecting. This may be true up to a certain point, but I think a more correct statement would be that the line between general collecting and specialism is not so sharply defined as it once was. In other words, most of us are general collectors as well as specialists.

Not so very long ago the collector was either a "generalist" or a specialist; and if the latter he probably had no interest whatever in any stamps outside his own particular speciality. This, to say the least of it, was detrimental to the social side of our hobby.

Nowadays there are few specialists who do not also "run" a general collection of some sort, with the result that Mr. A.—, the eminent specialist in Timbuctoo, is able to take an intelligent interest in his neighbour's wonderful accumulation of Wadhwanas, and vice versa.

During the last few years general collectors and beginners have been generously catered for in the philatelic Press, and they have no grounds for complaint as to a lack of advice regarding the best methods on

which to plan a general collection. Unfortunately each method is the best according to its particular sponsor, and with so many alternative schemes the novice is apt to be more hindered than helped.

One fact, however, stands out clearly, and that is the utter hopelessness of the task of obtaining a complete collection of the world's postage stamps according to the lists given in our modern Gibbons. The task is too great for any but the most wealthy of mortals, and the old "Imperial" Album—at one time the album for general collectors—has become so unwieldy that it is now sold piecemeal, so that the collector is almost forced to specialize.

The obvious remedy is a general collection on simplified lines, but, unfortunately, no two collectors seem to be agreed upon the particular form this simplification should take. This was unmistakably proved in the highly interesting "Symposium" on this subject in *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* some eighteen months ago. This discussion simply showed that stamp collectors are an independent lot of individuals, each of whom is prepared to stand or fall by his own pet theory.

Then in *G.S.W.* for July 11 the "skeleton"

idea was resurrected. This plan was, I believe, first mooted by Mr. B. T. K. Smith in the *Monthly Circular* some years ago, and, if I remember rightly, Mr. Smith gave a brief list of the stamps to be included in such a collection. Personally, I think a type collection is the best solution of the problem of simplification, for it not only enables the collector to form a representative collection of the world's postage stamps at a moderate cost, but also gives him plenty of scope to open up and extend those particular countries which appeal to him most.

What is a type collection?

Briefly, a type collection is a collection of all the distinct *types* of postage stamps that have been issued—a collection in which watermarks, perforations, values, colours, etc., are ignored, and in which a stamp is only admitted when its design differs radically from those already included. Speaking generally, it is a collection of all the stamps *illustrated* in Gibbons Catalogue with the exceptions and limitations detailed below.

Its advantages

The great advantages of a type or reference collection—call it what you will—are that it is possible to complete it, and it is always permanent. Additions can be made without any trouble and without any rearrangement of the stamps already mounted. As it comprises the types of stamps issued in all the stamp-issuing countries of the world, it gives its owner that general knowledge of stamp matters without which it is impossible to become a successful specialist.

It can be recommended to all classes of collectors: to the beginner, because of its simplicity; to the medium collector, because it gives him ample choice from which to pick countries for limited specialism; and to the specialist, because it keeps him interested in philatelic matters outside his own narrow sphere. If formed on such a plan as I suggest below, it can be adapted to the needs of the tyro whose purchases can never be very extensive, or to the needs of the great Moguls who can afford always to choose the most attractive or rarest varieties.

It is particularly suitable to the man of moderate means, for by devoting himself to types he will be able to form a far more representative and scientific collection than is possible in the ordinary way, and the collector who can afford to be more ambitious, will always find he has a useful nucleus of the stamps of those countries he decides to open out.

How to form one

While the majority of collectors will agree that a collection on some simplified plan is excellent in theory, most of them are content

to let it remain at that. It is either excessive modesty or laziness, but it is nevertheless true, that if the collector is asked to step from the beaten track, no matter how great an improvement the plan suggested is on his present methods, he will not take advantage of it unless everything is plain sailing. Thus I am quite confident that no matter how overwhelming the advantages of type collecting may seem as opposed to ordinary haphazard general collecting, to make this article of any use I must endeavour to show exactly how such a collection should be formed and the specific stamps that should be included in it.

The first desideratum is a good catalogue of the world's postage stamps. We shall naturally choose Gibbons, because, in the words of a certain advertisement, it is "best and goes farthest." That is, it is the one in most general use among my readers, and is also the most complete; and completeness is a desirable item before one can properly start condensing. The next point is to cut Gibbons Catalogue down from a highly specialist work to an abbreviated list of types.

What to omit

The crucial question is what can be omitted and what must be retained. To start with, we will delete all varieties of paper, perforation, colour, watermark, and confine ourselves to designs. Next, we shall omit all minor varieties of type such as the two dies of St. Lucia and of the "dotted" and "wavy-lined" spandrels of Denmark.

Whether to omit or include surcharges is a debatable point. Personally, I favour their exclusion, as they have nothing to do with the actual designs of the stamps themselves, and I have not included them in the detailed lists to follow later on. But if the collector decides to include them, they can easily be inserted, and should always follow stamps of similar types to those on which the overprints occur.

I would make an exception in the case of surcharges that practically alter the nationality of a stamp, such as the Bermudan stamps surcharged for use as the first issue of Gibraltar, British stamps overprinted for use in Cyprus, and German stamps surcharged for use in China.

Then it will be best to exclude all but ordinary postage stamps, i.e. Unpaid, Official, Registration, Too Late, postal fiscals, etc.

Lastly, the collector has to decide whether he will collect unused or used. If expense is a matter to be studied, used will be found much the cheaper, though, of course, unused look nicer. If a stamp is very rare unused, it is just as well to take a fine used copy.

(To be continued.)

The West African Colonies of France

Designs proposed for the New Stamps

Translated from "Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste"

IT would seem that the three designs of stamps used for the French Colonies in West Africa have been thought too unsuitable for their purpose, as the Governor of French West Africa has decided that they shall go to the wall. Monsieur de la Nézière, the distinguished colonial artist, has been entrusted with the new designs, and was instructed to depict local scenes as far as possible.

We were privileged to examine the dies, accepted by the Administration, in the studio of the artist, and below will be found reproductions of each design.

Each colony will be provided with a different design, which will serve for all sixteen values composing a complete set. Monsieur de la Nézière very much wishes the centre to be in black in each value, but owing to the difficulty of finding sixteen different colours suitable for the framework, he will probably have to forego his wish.



The above illustration shows the design adopted for the Ivory Coast; it depicts a river with wooded banks, on which is a canoe manned by natives; two Ashanti gods will be seen in the framework.

On the Dahomey design we see a native hoisting himself up a palm tree by the aid of a rope tied loosely round his waist and round the tree. Curious idols are portrayed in the upper corners of this stamp.



The design for French Guinea shows rubber porters crossing a ford at Kitim. The background consists mainly of a mountain, which is not very clear in the illustration.



On the stamp intended for Mauritania, Monsieur de la Nézière shows a caravan (*dé deux*) crossing the desert. The figures are supposed to be Mauritanian merchants carrying bags of rubber laden on an ox.

This illustration of the design for Upper Senegal and Niger portrays a touareg, an



Arab of the desert, mounted on a gigantic camel. In the distance can just be distinguished the outlines of a town, supposedly Timbuctoo.



The design for Senegal is certainly the most complicated. It depicts a native village, with figures grouped round bales of mer-

chandise ; the scene is laid in the market-place, where cotton and kernels are sold, the staple commercial products of the district.

The seventh design is entirely ornamental, and will be used for the Postage Dues stamps



of all six colonies, the name of each colony being added to the upper part of the stamp, and a figure of value inserted in the centre tablet.

The enlarged designs which we inspected at the artist's studio are carried out most carefully as regards detail.

Monsieur de la Nézière was resident in

various colonies for many years, and was certainly the best person to whom the Administration could have entrusted the work. It is a great pity that the designs when reproduced as postage stamps will not be anything like as fine as they are now, owing chiefly to the fact that the Ministry of the Colonies has a peculiar leaning towards engraving on wood, and also because repeated moulds have to be taken from the woodblocks to make the large number of plates necessary for printing sixteen values.

It is estimated that the Government Printing Office will not be able to complete the twelve sets of stamps (*viz.* six of postage stamps and six Postage Dues) before the middle of next year. We must wait till then to criticize the designs.

The Charges against Stamp Dealers

The Alleged Forgeries of North Borneo Colonial Stamps

AT the resumed hearing of the charge on Monday, May 17, Mr. F. N. Parker, 35 Linthorp Road, Stamford Hill, examined by Mr. Bodkin, said he was a stamp speculator. He knew the two defendants. About five years ago he became connected with Harmer when he was trading in the City as John Boulton and Co. He was introduced to Lowden about three years ago by Harmer in Villiers Street as a stamp dealer. His first business with the defendants was with the West End Stamp Company; sometimes he saw Harmer there and sometimes Lowden. He bought more Borneo stamps than any others, those being his speciality. He used to purchase them from the British North Borneo Company. He first bought them from the Company about the year 1886, and had purchased all issues up to the 1905 issue. He had bought them unused and cancelled, but always in sheets. They were cancelled by bars across the stamps; sometimes the mark would be over the four stamps, but sometimes only over two. He had some unperfected stamps of the 1886 issues. He bought $\frac{1}{2}$ c. to 10 c., and if some of the higher values were issued at the same time he bought some of them.

After the 1886 issue, we have heard of two further issues of stamps by the Company—1887 to 1889 issue and the 1894. Did you buy some of these?—Yes, some of all of them.

Continuing, witness said he had continued to purchase stamps from the Company up to the present time, all in sheets, some unused and some cancelled. He had bought some of the higher-value stamps which were called "trial sheets," which had been doubly printed. For a short time he might have had a monopoly in the stamps on account of the large quantities he was buying, but speaking generally the Company could dis-

pose of their stamps to whomever they liked. He was not an agent of the Company, he was an independent buyer. In 1907 he had a very large quantity of Borneo stamps, and he entered into an arrangement with the two defendants to sell to them. Under the agreement he was to deliver £2000 stamps in the course of the year at the rate of £200 a month, with the exception of August and September, which were holiday months. He had continued to supply them, and had made two and a half deliveries this year. He had been paid for his deliveries up to date. Altogether under the contract he had received £3500, £800 of which was in the nature of a deposit, which was to be set off on the last delivery. His last delivery was about two months ago. He had been waiting for Lowden to request him to continue the supplies. He saw Lowden and told him he would not press him to take deliveries while the case was going on.

Under that contract, what kind of stamps did you deliver?—All kinds of stamps which I received from the British North Borneo Company, from the 1887 to 1889 issue, postage and revenue unperfected. He never supplied any other stamps under the contract than those which he got direct from the Company. He might have supplied some of the trial sheets, but he was not absolutely certain. Last December he received a communication from a Mr. Healey, who read him a letter from a stamp dealer in Paris. Consequently upon that he and Mr. Healey went to the offices of the British North Borneo Company.

The witness's evidence was broken off at this point in order that he might go home to get a copy of the agreement.

Mr. H. N. Burgess, 40 Cottenham Road, Penge, managing clerk to Messrs. Bright

and Son, stamp dealers, 64 Strand, said he got some instructions from his principal, in consequence of which he wrote a letter from his private house to Herbert Mack and Co. He sent the letter under the name of Plummer, and asked for specimens of the Borneo stamps which were advertised in *Mack's Review*. In reply he received a small book of Borneo stamps, containing a number of specimen stamps for selection. He looked through the book and took out one set of the Borneo priced at 1s. 3d. net, and returned it with a remittance. A few days afterwards he received a letter and another book of Borneo stamps containing rather higher-priced stamps than the previous one. He handed the book and the letter to his principal. Acting on instructions he wrote saying that the price asked for the book—£9 9s. 6d.—was rather high, but, that if they would accept £3 net he would be inclined to keep it, and he got a post card a day or two after accepting his offer. He sent the £3 by postal orders. The book he received contained $\frac{1}{2}$ c. and 10 c. postage and revenue Borneo, and some of the higher values. Also a one dollar stamp surcharged "British Protectorate."

Cross-examined by Mr. Curtis Bennett, witness said his wife wrote the letters under his instructions. He himself selected the set which was purchased, but the money for it was paid by his employers. He could not say definitely what had become of the first set he purchased; it might have gone into their stock.

I put it to you that the low-value stamps in the second book are printers' waste, and the higher-value are reprints?—I don't know anything about it.

Continuing, witness said that his employers did not sell reprints. They would only supply reprints if specially asked for them. He had seen copies of *Mack's Review*, and thought he had seen articles in that paper attacking members of the Stamp Trade Protection Society.

Miss Ethel Pix, of 76 Whittington Road, Bowes Park, deposed to having been in the employment of the West End Stamp Company from February, 1907, until the end of last year, when she transferred her services to Herbert Mack and Co. Harmer ceased to have any connection with the business at Villiers Street last autumn. Up to that time he used to attend the office almost every day, as well as Lowden. Her principal duty was to make up approval sheets and books, and forward them to intending customers.

Cross-examined: Harmer travelled a good deal on the Continent, and was therefore away from the office for considerable intervals.

Miss Newmann, 62 Portway, West Ham, said she had been in the employ of the defendants at 20 Villiers Street for some time as a clerk. Previous to that she had worked as a clerk for Boulton and Co., stamp dealers, King Street, Cheapside, a business which

was carried on by Harmer and Wichmann. In May, 1906, Harmer left, and entered business with Lowden as the West End Stamp Company, and remained connected with the business until October last. The business of Mack and Co. was started at Villiers Street about February, 1907, to the best of her recollection. It was carried on by the two defendants, separately from the West End Stamp Company. Since Harmer left in October she had seen him there a few times and seen Lowden.

Witness then explained the various books which she kept for the West End Stamp Company, and identified a number of entries in the cash book of cheques paid to René Carême, presumably for stamps bought. She was not able to say what the stamps were that were so bought. She had written letters to Carême in French and German, which had been dictated to her by the two defendants. Carême's letters to the defendants were always in German. She was a holder of four shares in Herbert Mack and Co., but she had never paid for them. Lowden asked her if she minded having them. (Laughter.) She had not received any dividends, she was waiting. (Renewed laughter.)

In cross-examination by Mr. Curtis Bennett, witness said there was no secrecy about the fact that the West End Stamp Company had dealings with Carême.

Detective Ward spoke to having translated copies of letters in German to Carême from the letter book of the West End Stamp Company, and also letters purporting to come from Carême.

Mr. Parker was recalled and examined by Mr. Bodkin on the agreements dated September 25th, 1907, and June 4th, 1908, between himself and the West End Stamp Company, referring to the sale of British North Borneo stamps. Witness handed up a detailed statement showing the various sums he had received from the defendants, amounting in all to £3400 in respect of deliveries up to the end of 1908.

In further cross-examination by Mr. Curtis Bennett, witness said he had had a monopoly for certain periods at certain times from the British North Borneo Company. For about twelve months he possessed the monopoly of purchasing the 1887 to 1889 issue. He could not remember whether he had anything in writing on the matter—it was quite possible he did, but if so he would not have it now, as his papers only went back three or four years. He did not know of anybody else who was dealing with the Company, over the 1887 and 1889 issues. The cancelled stamps were sold to him at considerably under face value. They were sold to him for the purpose of resale to collectors or dealers. He was taking very large quantities of stamps from the Company. He could not say whether the Company printed the

stamps specially for him. It may have been so, but it was so many years ago that the transaction happened that he was not positive on the point. Of course, if the stamps were cancelled they would be of no use for postal or revenue purposes, but only for collectors or dealers. Under the agreement he undertook not to sell any cancelled stamps to anybody except the defendants, and he stood by the agreement. At the end of last year he gave the Company an order for the

current issue. The stamps that he sold to the defendants included unperforated ones of the 1887 issue.

Witness was cross-examined with a view to showing that the stamps sold to Burgess had first come from him, but witness said he was an expert only as regarded the question of price.

The case was again adjourned until May 27, defendants being released on the same bail as before.

Greek Stamps used in Turkey

By DR. EMILIO DIENA

IN *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*, dated April 3, 1909, Mr. W. N. Wyeth asks for information about Offices of the Postal Administration of Greece established abroad.

I have discovered some interesting information about such offices in an official publication entitled *An Official Handbook treating of Organization of Posts in Greece, from 1829 to October 1, 1861*.*

Since 1834, exchange offices were opened in the care of the Greek Consuls at Marseilles, Messina, Alexandria, Candia, Smyrna, and Constantinople. In 1852 Consular Post Offices were opened at Arta and Janina, and in 1853 at Prevesa. During the Crimean War the Constantinople office was closed, but it was reopened later.

In 1857 the following post offices were added to the above, viz. Bucarest, Jassy, Ibraïla and Galatz. However, my friend Mr. Em. J. Mertzanoff, who has so long specialized in Greek stamps, assures me that he has never seen any Greek stamps bearing cancellations of the above four Roumanian offices.

Dating from the régime of postage stamps (which were decided upon in 1855, but as a matter of fact were not issued until

* *Exposé général de l'Organisation des Postes en Grèce depuis 1829 jusqu'au 1er Octobre 1861*. Athens. Printed by Soutza and Ctena, 1862. 8vo; 80 pages.

October 1/13, 1861), the following Greek Post Offices were in active operation abroad:—

Alexandria (97)	Ibraïla
Arta	Janina
Bucarest	Prevesa
Constantinople (95)	Salonica (98)
Galatz	Smyrna (96)

The numbers in brackets are the numbers appearing on the cancellation stamps of some of the offices.

I have not found any mention of an office at Volo, which was certainly opened later on. I have in my possession a letter emanating from that office, which is dated February 23, 1878. The cancellation stamp is not numbered.

The date stamps were probably made in Paris: they are composed of a double circle, and are inscribed TOTPKIA (Turkey) at the bottom, with the exception of that belonging to Alexandria.

The Alexandrian office was done away with on December 31, 1881, and I believe that the other offices were closed during the same year.

In conclusion of these notes I must add that Greece had offices on the Island of Crete, at Xania (Canea), Heraklea and Rethymnos.

American Notes and News

By EUSTACE B. POWER

IHAVE lately returned from a visit to a client in New England who entertained me very royally and who also complimented me on sending in another bunch of American Notes. He said that he knew I'd done so because he wasn't well lately and only read my notes when he was sick. Such is fame!

Further supplies of our present issue, imperforate, are showing considerable shade differences, the one cent coming in a washy yellow-green. The two lower values are also to be had on a distinctly bluish paper. I am told this is experimental paper made

of part rag instead of woodpulp, in an endeavour to secure a paper that, when damp, will not swell, and therefore permit of more even perforations. Anything that can give us better-centred specimens is a blessing, for some of our present productions along these lines are appalling.

I am much obliged to various friends who have helped me out on the numbers I need of our *Weekly*. I am still greatly in need of the Title and Index to Vol. II, and hope some friend will look it up for me in the last number of this volume.

Stamp trade in these United States has,

I am glad to say, lately taken on a decidedly better turn. Amongst other things I have sold are—New Brunswick 1s. unused, Canada 6d., wove, unused, and several hundred pounds' worth of good Colonials. In U.S. I find the market fairly stripped of good material. There is, I think, no country in the world in which there is so much semi-fine stuff as U.S.; but, when it comes to slap-up fine copies, the way they sell is a caution. Lately, the Czar "loosened up" a few fine U.S. and they are nearly all sold now, and they only came three or four days ago. Speaking of U.S., I should like to buy a really fine unused and several fine used copies of the 1c. of 1851 with full scrolls, if my reader has any to sell. Ridiculous as it may seem, I am also short of unused 5c., Taylor, both on hard and on soft paper, and I want several hundred 6c. of 1888 re-engraved, used, if you have them. Also, I will pay a fabulously extravagant glorious price for a block of four 10c., 1869, unused. Send on your hoardings!

Times are better here, and collectors whose faces have been seldom seen in the last two years are again showing up. One old client bobbed in on Friday and carried away a beautiful square first-issue British Guiana blue and a square 108 paras of Moldavia. Two nice stamps to acquire.

A collector in the West, a great and valued friend of mine, has started on a little collection of U.S., all to have red cancellations—nice idea, but hard! well, rather. From 1861 on I should be glad to hear of any for sale—especially the higher values.

Auction sales are everlasting a subject of "howl" with me. Unless collectors can themselves actually examine every lot and go over the stamps with a fine-tooth comb, they are likely sometimes to get saddled with some pretty rotten things. When I was West recently a collector showed me some lots recently acquired—about half a dozen. No. 1, a \$2 State Department, described as used—if it had been described as "killed" it would have been better. No. 2, Paraguay, first issue, black—rank counterfeit! No. 3, same in blue, another beast! No. 4, a lot of Argentine, which after careful examination showed one (and the cheapest one) out of the lot to be perfect. I wonder when collectors will come to their senses and quit this fool business—for the auctioneers won't stop so long as the fish bite. As my friend Davey Hunt says, you can't buy five cent screws for four cents unless they are "phony." I don't quite know what "phony" is—it's a Cleveland term, and means something out there. Perhaps Fred Bruce can elucidate. Speak up, *Fred!*

Correspondence

Belgian Congo

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

DEAR SIR.—In the "Foreign Notes" of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* of February 20, I find a description of various dies used for the hand-stamped overprints of "Belgian Congo," which appears to be collated from *L'Echo de la Timbrologie*.

The article described three dies, but, after a careful examination of a number of these overprints, I feel very certain there were at least four handstamps.

As the measurements and distinctive features may be of interest to some of your readers, I give a description of them. The measurements are taken across the middle of the words from the left of the "c" to the end of the middle bar of the "E." The space between the words is also measured in the same location. I have found that, occasionally, the spacing is not the same at the top and bottom of the letters.

Handstamps.

DIE I. Overprint, $17\frac{1}{4}$ mm. "BELGE," 8 mm. Space between words, $1\frac{1}{4}$ mm. Opening in "c," $1\frac{1}{8}$ mm.

DIE II. Overprint, $17\frac{1}{4}$ mm. "BELGE," $7\frac{3}{4}$ mm. Space between words, $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm. Opening in "c," $1\frac{1}{4}$ mm. "B" has small top, i.e. the dividing stroke is above the middle of the letter.

DIE III. Overprint, 18 mm. "BELGE," $7\frac{3}{4}$ mm. Space between words, $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm. Opening in "c," $1\frac{1}{8}$ mm. "B" evenly divided. Final "E" has

top bar slightly turned up, and bottom bar turned down.

DIE IV. Overprint, $17\frac{1}{4}$ mm. "BELGE," $7\frac{3}{4}$ mm. Space between words, $1\frac{1}{8}$ mm. Opening in "c," $1\frac{1}{4}$ mm. First "E" has cross-bar above the middle of the vertical line.

Printed overprint.

DIE V. Overprint, $17\frac{1}{2}$ mm. "BELGE," $7\frac{3}{4}$ mm. Space between words, $1\frac{1}{8}$ mm. Opening in "c," $1\frac{1}{4}$ mm. The lower curve of the letter "c" is bent inward. The first "E" has the cross-bar in the middle of the vertical line. The overprint is deeply impressed, so that it stands out clearly at the back of the stamp.

The distinctive features of the handstamped dies are:—

- I. The narrow space between the words.
- II. The small top to the letter "B."
- III. The shape of the final "E."
- IV. The location of the cross-bar of the first "E."

Apparently Die "A," as described in *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*, is my Die I. "B" covers my Dies II and III, and Die "C" is the same as my Die IV. Die "C" is not "identical with the printed overprint," as claimed, though very closely resembling it.

The article gives a list of the denominations on which each handstamp was used. Most of this list I have confirmed, but must divide the stamps overprinted with Die B as follows: Die II, 10 c., 50 c., 1 fr., 5 fr.; III, 15 c., 35 c., 40 c. I have

also the 25 c. with overprint IV (C) in addition to the denominations listed in the *Weekly*.

Very truly yours,
JOHN N. LUFF.

[There were probably more dies used than our correspondent mentions; indeed, one authority in Brussels suggests seven or eight altogether. Our publishers have found in their stock specimens of the 10 c. and 25 c. overprinted by a handstamp differing from those described above.

The dimensions of this are as follows:—

Overprint, $17\frac{1}{2}$ mm. "BELGE," $7\frac{1}{2}$ mm. Space between words, $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm. Opening in "C," 1 mm. Distinctive feature, wide space between "E" and "LG," the latter being closer together than in the other overprints.—ED. G.S.W.]

New Zealand Notes

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

SIR,—I have noticed in several journals of late comments on our New Zealand Officials. Perhaps the following extract from a letter written me by an official in the Life Insurance Department will be of interest. He says: "I have not heard that the Official stamps are to be discontinued, nor do I think it is likely. We do not now use them in our head offices, as we have automatic franking machines which impress the envelope and register the amount like a cash register. These registers cost £25, and it would obviously not pay to supply them to every agent who now has to use the stamps. It has been rumoured that a small quantity of 2s. and 5s. Officials have been falsely date-stamped, but whoever is responsible for the forgery made a bungle of it, inasmuch as the person has used the automatic stamping machine (for letters) instead of the round handstamp."

Referring to the Lighthouse series, my friend does not think more than three hundred of the 1s. were used during the fifteen years they were in use. As far as I know the Officials are still the same series, with the doubtful exception of

the £1. I have not yet seen it, and don't expect to, as I fail to see what use it could be put to.

I have to note a peculiar incident in connection with the current issue of postage stamps (N.Z.) About the middle of last year I purchased the $2\frac{1}{2}$ d., blue, perf. 14 rough. Since then I have seen nothing but the perf 11. The 4d. has also been similarly dealt with. I have a small number of them (4d.), new comb, perf. $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$, and at the present time the only stamp of that denomination for sale at the post office is perf. 14 rough, and whether due to paper or not, the colour (chestnut) shows through the back of stamp.

To date, the only ones, as far as I know, that have been perforated with the new comb machine are the—

- 3d., perf. $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$ and 14×15 .
- 1d., new design, by Perkins Bacon.
- 3d., perf. $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$; also 14×15 .
- 4d., perf. $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$.
- 6d., perf. $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$; also 14×15 .
- 1s., perf. $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$.

The 1d., new design, is reported compound perf., but as yet I have not seen it.

You will have noticed ere this that Lieutenant Shackleton, the "Postmaster" of King Edward VII Land, has returned from the Sunny South snows, and reports having placed the cylinder (containing New Zealand overprinted stamps presented by the Dominion) at a distance of one hundred miles from the South Pole. At this point the temperature is 72° below zero, so that I hardly think any stamp collector is likely to go a-hunting for them, and if they did, the stamps, when found, would scarcely be called mint or full gum owing to the climate.

Anyhow, that is the end of the Edward VII stamps. They never were an authentic issue and never will be, and as far as I know never were intended to be.

Yours, etc.,

FRANK B. BARTON.

DENNISTON, NEW ZEALAND.

New Issues and Discoveries

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Bolivia.—A reliable correspondent in Pernambuco informs us that he has an imperforate pair of the 10 c. of the 1897 issue.



12

1897. Type 12.
Variety. Imperf.
85a 10 c., brownish purple.

Cayman Islands.—We have been shown copies of the 1s. on multiple paper; this supersedes the



9

stamp on single-watermarked paper, and seems to indicate that the stock of green paper thus

watermarked is exhausted, so in future we need not expect any 1s. and 10s. with single watermark.

1909. Type 9. Wmk. Multiple Crown C'A, Type w. 8. Perf. 14.
27| 1s., black on green, C.

Dutch Indies.—According to the *Bulletin Champion* (25.4.09) a 4 c., ultramarine, has been issued.



10

1909. Type 10. Perf. 12½.
101a| 4 c., ultramarine.

German P.O.'s in China.—According to the *Bulletin Champion* (25.4.09) a fifth value has made its appearance on the lozenge-watermarked paper.



17

35

* *
1 Cent 1
China

1909. Type 17 of the German Empire overprinted as Type 35, in black. Wmk. Lozenges, as Type 37.
C 44| 20 c. on 40 (pf.), black and carmine.

Gold Coast—A correspondent of *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (15.5.09) reports having seen a copy of the new 3d., to which we referred last week, postmarked April 18.



7

APRIL, 1909. Type 7. Wmk. Multiple Crown C'A, Type w. 8. Perf. 14.
68| 3d., purple on yellow, C.

Guatemala.—Our agent in Guatemala forwards three new provisionals, which we illustrate and list below.

From errors of lettering and minor defects it can easily be seen that the 2 c. on 75 c. and 6 c. on 50 c. are printed from the same type, with the exception of the alteration of the value.

The surcharge was done in sheets of 100 (10 x 10). An "F" instead of an "E" is to be found in "CENTAVOS" on Nos. 72 and 77; and in the same word a small "s," perhaps of different fount, on Nos. 20, 43, and 48. We are

listing the former variety, but do not think that the latter is of sufficient importance.



46



47



49

1909

12½**CENTAVOS**
1909.

DOS 2 DOS

CENTAVOS

53

54

1909. Types 46, 47, and 49, surcharged in black
(on 75 c. in red).

216 53| 2 c. on 75 c., black and lilac.

217 " | 6 c. on 50 c., blue and brown.

218 54| 12½ c. on 2 p., black and vermilion.

Variety, "CENTAVOS" instead of "CENTAVOS."

220 2 c. on 75 c., black and lilac.

221 6 c. on 50 c., blue and brown.

Italian P.O.'s in the Levant.—In our issue of March 20 we described and illustrated the Italian stamps surcharged for use at Constanti-

COSTANTINOPOLI
4 PIASTRE 4SALONICO
4 PIASTRE 4

nople, Jerusalem, Salonica, and Smyrna, and we are now informed that in each case the 4 and 20 piastres were in block type, similar to the illustrations given above.

Japan.—We have received the current 15 sen in quite a new shade, which is rather difficult to describe, but perhaps *dull mauve-purple* expresses it better than anything.



27

1909. Type 27. Colour changed.
(a) Perf. 11½, 12, or 12½.
241a| 15 sen, dull mauve-purple.

Nicaragua.—We have been shown a number of new provisionals which we list below (for the sake of clearness we include in brackets four stamps listed in our issue of March 13).

CORREOS—1908



49

46

50

1909. Fiscal stamps, Type 46 (value in black), overprinted with Type 49, vertically downwards, in green (G.), or black (Bk.), Perf. 14 to 15.

397| 5 p., dull blue (G.).

398| 50 p., orange-vermilion (Bk.).

Variety. Double surcharge; once in green and once in black.

399| 50 p., orange-vermilion.

1909. As above, but Type 46 with "1904" in black, below the words "TIMBRE FISCAL.", surcharged with Type 50, in black.

399a| 4 c. on 25 c., lilac.

399b| 4 c. on 50 c., green.



116

1908-9. Fiscal stamps, Type 116, overprinted or surcharged vertically downwards, in black (Bk.), blue (B.), or green (G.). Perf. 14 to 15.

Overprinted with Type 49.

1 c., indigo (Bk.).

[2 c., orange (Bk.).]

5 c., brown (Bk.).

5 c. " (G.).

1 p., claret (Bk.).

* Surcharged as Type 50.

4 c. on 1 c., indigo (Bk.).

[4 c. on 2 c., orange (Bk.).]

4 c. on 5 c., brown (Bk.).

4 c. on 10 c., green (Bk.).

4 c. on 50 c., dull purple (Bk.).

4 c. on 1 p., claret (Bk.).

[5 c. on 2 c., orange (Bk.).]

[10 c. on 2 c. " (G.).]

Variety. "Cents" sign of surcharge omitted.

4 c. on 2 c., orange (Bk.).

* We have also been shown the following stamps surcharged as Type 50, but they appear to have been done in violet with a handstamp. It should be understood that we do not formally chronicle these, as there appears to be some little doubt as to their genuineness.

4 c. on 1 c., indigo.

4 c. on 5 c., brown.

4 c. on 10 c., green.

4 c. on 50 c., dull purple.

4 c. on 1 p., claret.

CORREOS—1908

VALE 4 C

Roumania.—Mr. E. C. S. Servis has shown us a copy of the 1 leu of 1905 with compound perforation.



II

1905. Type 21. Paper tinted pink on back. No wmk.

(c) Perf. compound of $11\frac{1}{2}$ and $13\frac{1}{2}$.

458| 1 leu, black and blue-green.

A correspondent has shown us the 5 b. of the 1908 set lithographed; the 1 and 3 bani were chronicled in our issue of March 13, but as there were one or two slight inaccuracies we re-chronicle them below.



39

1908-9. Type 39. Lithographed. Perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$ or $13\frac{1}{2}$, or compound.

496| 1 b., black.

497| 3 b., red-brown.

498| 5 b., pale yellow-green.

Straits Settlements.—The Asiatic Stamp Company has forwarded us a copy of the new 5 c., to which we referred in our issue of May 1. It was issued at the Penang Post Office at 1 p.m. on April 23.



40

APRIL 23, 1909. Type 40. Perf. 14.

130b| 5 c., orange, O.

Western Australia.—According to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (15.5.09) the 4d. was issued in a new shade late in 1908.



21

1908. Type 21. Wmk. Crown and A, Type 31 (sideways).

(a) Perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$ or $12 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$.

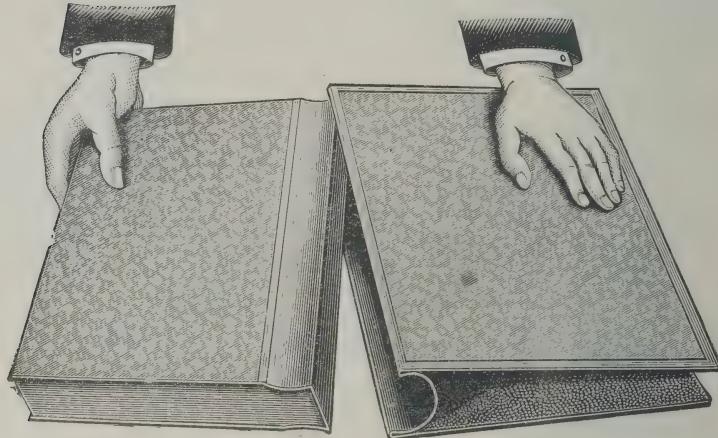
422a| 4d., yellow-brown.

The Sectional Imperial Album

THIS NEW ALBUM IS FULLY DESCRIBED IN A PAMPHLET
WHICH WILL BE SENT POST-FREE ON APPLICATION.

The Outside Dimensions of the Cover are
 $11\frac{5}{8}$ by $10\frac{7}{8}$ in.

Each Page measures $11\frac{1}{8}$ by 8 in.
clear of Binding.



THE BINDERS

Have been specially made and are of the simplest description; you only have to bend back the cover with one hand and remove the leaves with the other. (*See above.*)

These Binders will hold from twenty to nearly two hundred leaves.

When mounting stamps, the spring-back cover should be removed and the pages laid out quite flat.

They are in two qualities, as follows :

No. 33.—Handsomely covered in marone cloth, bevelled boards, lettered on sides and also in gold on back, with sunk panel on back for insertion of particulars of contents. Price 6/-; post-free, United Kingdom, 6/6; abroad, 7/-.

No. 34.—Superbly half-covered in green Levant Morocco, cloth sides, bevelled boards, gold lettering on back, with sunk panel for contents. Price 15/-; post-free, United Kingdom, 15/6; abroad, 16/-.

STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED,

391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 24
Whole No. 232

JUNE 12, 1909

VOL. IX.

Countries of the World

Guatemala—continued

(Continued from page 376.)

Provisionals of 1898—continued

THE new stamps ordered from Messrs. Waterlow and Sons arrived in Guatemala about July, 1902, but they were not issued till September 15, the date of the annual National Fête.

The stamps were engraved and printed in *taille-douce* in two colours, and, as usual with this firm's work, are splendid examples of the engraver's and printer's arts. They portray views, etc., of local interest, amongst others that of Lake Amatitlan, one of the beauty spots of the country. The stamps are still in use, and are popular amongst present-day collectors. Some idea of their cost may be gathered from the statement that appeared in an official notice dated January 16, 1905, to the effect that "£805 sterling had been authorized by the Treasury to be paid for 5,500,000 stamps of 2 centavos to 2 pesos necessary for the first six months' consumption in the year 1905."



(Columbus Theatre.)



(Artillery Barracks.)



(Monument to Columbus.)



(Native School.)

Sept. 15, 1902. Centre in first colour. Perf. 14, 15.

Unused. Used.

	s. d.	s. d.
1 c., mauve and emerald . . .	0 1	0 1
2 c., black and lake . . .	0 1	0 1
5 c., black and ultramarine . . .	0 2	0 1
6 c., deep grn. and olive-yellow . . .	0 2	0 1
10 c., blue and orange . . .	0 3	0 1
20 c., black and claret . . .	0 4	0 3
50 c., blue and red-brown . . .	0 9	0 3
75 c., black and lilac . . .	1 0	0 6
1 p. , brown . . .	1 6	0 8
2 p. , vermillion . . .	3 0	1 6



(Arms.)



(J. Rufino Barrios.)



(Museum.)



(Temple of Minerva.)



(Lake Amatitlan.)



(Cathedral.)

In 1903 an opportunity presented itself to the authorities to use up some of the old stock, for a decree dated April 17, 1903, authorized the creation of a lot of 25 c. provisionals. The quantities so created are given in brackets. It was said that the produce of the sale of these stamps was to be devoted to the building of an asylum, not

1903

25

CENTAVOS

(to quote Major Evans) "as might be supposed, for decayed and bankrupt philatelists,

who had spent their little all in buying stamps from purely philanthropic motives, but for mere ordinary convalescents."

April 17, 1903. *Stamps of 1886-94 or 1900 (the low values the engraved type) surcharged in black (the 150 c. in red).*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
25 c. on 1 c., deep green (110,000)	0 5	0 6
25 c. on 2 c., rose-red (58,000)	0 5	0 6
25 c. on 6 c., pale green (31,000)	0 5	0 6
25 c. on 10 c., " brown (8000)	1 3	0 9
25 c. on 75 c., rose (6200)	—	—
25 c. on 150 c., blue (6200)	—	—
25 c. on 200 c., yellow (5700)	—	—

In February, 1907, a new value was added to the current set, viz. a 12½ c., necessary by a revised tariff for printed matter which required 12½ c. per 15 grammes.



(Signing the Declaration of Independence.)

February, 1907. *Centre in first colour. Perf. 14.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
12½ c., black and blue	0 3	0 2

In June or July, 1908 (the Catalogue has a slip here), the same old values (1 c., 2 c., and 6 c.) again gave out, with the consequent creation of provisionals. The current 10 c., 12½ c., and 20 c. stamps were surcharged, but how many provisionals were issued is not recorded.

1908

UN 1' UN
CENTAVO

To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Stock Books, and are, therefore, the Prices at which Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., will have pleasure in supplying any of the stamps that may be needed by any of our readers.

Topical Notes

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

Mr. W. P. Barnsdall

IT is with the greatest regret that I have to inform the readers of *G.S.W.* that Mr. W. P. Barnsdall has severed his connection with this firm.

Mr. Barnsdall joined us some twelve years ago as book-keeper and worked his way up to a seat on the Board, to which position he was elected on the death of my friend Mr. Gordon Smith.

Mr. Barnsdall has done a lot of good work for the *Weekly*: for a long time he has written the series of articles entitled "Countries of the World," and their compilation has entailed an enormous amount of original research.

For some years past Mr. Barnsdall has edited several of our albums, notably the "Imperial" and the "Ideal," and for the

1908. *Stamp of 1902-7 surcharged in black (the 12½ c. in red).*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 c. on 10 c., blue and orange	0 1	—
2 c. on 12½ c., black and blue	0 1	—
6 c. on 20 c., " claret	0 2	—

A fresh outbreak has occurred quite recently, and as readers will have noticed in last week's chronicle of New Issues, three further provisionals were put on sale about a month ago. The description given being so recent it is only necessary to formally list as follows:—

1909. *Stamps of 1902 surcharged in black (on 75 c. in red).*

1909

DOS 2 DOS

CENTAVOS

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
2 c. on 75 c., black and blue	—	—
6 c. on 50 c., blue and red-brown	—	—

12½

CENTAVOS

1909.

12½ c. on 2 p., blk. and vermillion

Here, with the exception of a set of simple looking Official stamps, ends the list of Guatemalan stamps for the present. In July, 1907, it was rumoured that the Government contemplated the issue, at the end of the year or beginning of 1908, of a set of five stamps to commemorate the completion of the interoceanic railway of Guatemala. This set did not materialize, and as the occasion is past, it is to be hoped another will no present itself. There are too many commemorative stamps already.

past three years has done the bulk of the work on the annual Catalogues.

Personally I deeply regret that he has had to leave us; in certain branches of the work of the company he has given me assistance which I shall find it very difficult to replace.

The Hundred Rarest Stamps

M. VICTOR FLANDRIN, in a French paper, recently published a list of what he termed the "hundred rarest stamps," giving them in order of rarity.

To any one who knows the real market value and the real relative rarity his article is really absurd, and to prove this I will note a few glaring faults.

He gives fifth place to British Guiana 1850 2 c., black on rose, *unused*.

Not a single specimen of this is known to exist, and it cannot be compared with the "Post Office" Mauritius, of which at least twenty-six copies are known, and yet he puts those stamps as Nos. 3 and 4 in his list.

His Nos. 13 and 14 are as follows:—

13. Tuscany 3 lire, used.

14. Hawaii 1851 13 c., used.

The 3 lire Tuscany is probably at least three, perhaps four, times as common as the Hawaiian 13 cents.

His stamp No. 51 on list is Uruguay 1851 180 c., red, error, *unused*. I do not think that a single unused copy of this stamp is known, and I only know of one used copy, and yet M. Flandrin places it in order of rarity below many stamps of which scores of examples are in collections.

This is a very interesting subject for an article, and during the next few weeks I will endeavour to prepare a list, which I trust will be a little more correct than the one in question.

Description of New Stock Books arranged and priced recently

Shanghai.

A very fine book of this interesting country has just been rearranged, and we have amalgamated the balance of the fine specialized collection that we recently purchased.

The stamps of the first type are very strongly represented by superb copies with large margins, stamps that are very desirable and hard to find in this condition; there are also a number of pairs, and strips of three, five, and six stamps in this issue.

The later issues are all strongly represented and some uncatalogued varieties are included.

Lagos and Sierra Leone.

Two popular countries that are always in good demand. Most issues are well represented, but the stock has run down a good deal and will have to be replenished.

Oldenburg, Prussia, Saxony, and Schleswig.

A fine book of these old and obsolete German States, including many rarities, fine blocks, and rare postmarks. Unused German stamps in fine condition are becoming rarer year by year, and are gradually finding their way into the albums of some of our best philatelists both here, on the Continent, and in America.

Siam and Monaco.

The Siam are exceptionally fine, as this new stock book includes the balance of a very fine collection that we bought a short time ago.

The new stock book contains a very fine lot of errors in the provisional issues, and quite a few varieties that have not been catalogued, but most of which will appear in the next edition of the Catalogue.

I draw special attention to the prices in this new book. Owing to a very advantageous purchase, we have been enabled to very largely reduce many quotations, and collectors should take advantage of this circumstance to fill up blanks in their collections, as, probably, when the present stock is exhausted, prices will return to their old level.

Hong Kong.

This has just been rearranged, and it includes a nice lot of the old issues, including fine unused shades, scarce postmarks, etc.

Gambia and Gold Coast.

Two popular little groups, always in good demand, but not as strong as I could wish, still worthy of inspection by even advanced collectors. Some of the stamps of the Gambia have been materially reduced in price owing to a recent advantageous purchase.

Our Annual Meeting

THE annual general meeting of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., was held at 391 Strand, W.C., on Friday, May 28 last.

The accounts for 1908 were presented and passed, and the usual final dividend for the year was declared.

Attention was drawn to the fact that during the past twelve months the accounts owing by the company had been reduced by no less than £13,600, whereas the accounts owing to the company were only about £2800 less.

The business done during the year was reported to have been the largest and most profitable for some years past.

The resignation of Mr. W. P. Barnsall as a Director was accepted.

Mr. Frank Phillips was elected a Director of the company.

The Postage Stamps of Belgium—*contd.*

By CH. DE BONT

(ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.)

(Continued from page 382.)

ISSUES OF OCTOBER 15 AND NOVEMBER 15, 1896, AND JANUARY 11, 1897—*contd.*

THE offer of a prize of 1000 to 1500 francs for the best design acted as a stimulant to the artistic spirits of the country. There were altogether 252 competitors, the majority of whom submitted designs which were not in accordance with the regulations.

The first prize of 1000 francs was awarded to M. A. Van Nest, of Bruges, whose design was used for the 10 centimes stamp.

The second prize of 500 francs was won by M. G. Portielje, of Antwerp; his design being used for the 5 centimes.

Other prizes of 250 francs each were awarded to :—

M.M. Jean Ubayhs, of Liège.
L. Cuvelier, of Ixelle.
Van Biesbruck, of Ghent.
Meldenpenninghe, of Ghent.

And others of 100 francs each to :—

M.M. Hein, of Ghent.
Telt, of Antwerp.
De Haen, of Ixelle.
Constant Montald, of Ghent.

The work of engraving both of the stamps was entrusted to Monsieur Mouchon, of Paris, whose initials "E. M." can be distinguished on them.

The following decrees were issued relative to the issuing of the stamps :—

"LEOPOLD II—KING OF THE BELGIANS.
"To all present and to those to come :—

"GREETING :—

"PURSUANT TO paragraph 40 of the law of May 30, 1879, authorizing the Government to issue postage stamps, and a period during which they shall be available, etc. etc.

"AT THE REQUEST OF Our Minister of Railways, Posts, and Telegraphs :—

"WE HAVE DECREED AND DO DECREE:—

"1. Special postage stamps shall be issued during the International Exhibition to be held at Brussels in 1897. They shall be used for the same purposes as the ordinary postage stamps.

"2. Our Minister of Railways, Posts, and Telegraphs will determine the inscriptions, values, conditions of sale, and period during which they shall be available, and he will settle all details necessary to the execution of this decree.

"Given at Laeken, October 2, 1896.
(Signed) "LEOPOLD.

"By the King.

"The Minister of Railways,
Posts, and Telegraphs.
(Signed) "J. VANDENPEEREBOOM."

"THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, POSTS,
AND TELEGRAPHHS.

"PURSUANT TO the Royal Decree dated October 2, 1896, concerning the issue of special postage stamps during the International Exhibition to be held at Brussels in 1897 :—

"DECREES :—

"1. The above-mentioned postage stamps will be inscribed 'BRUXELLES 1897 BRUSSEL' and 'POSTES—POSTERIJEN.' A label will also be attached to them, which will be inscribed 'NE PAS LIVRER LE DIMANCHE—NIET BESTELLEN OP ZONDAG,' and which is intended to be used according to the terms of the first paragraph of our decree dated May 15, 1893.

"2. The values and colours of the stamps will be as follows :—

5 centimes, violet.
10 , , brown.

"3. The 10 centimes stamps will be issued on October 15, 1896, and the 5 centimes on November 15 next.

"Brussels, October 5, 1896.

(Signed) "J. VANDENPEEREBOOM."

These stamps were surface-printed in colour on slightly toned paper; both are perforated 14, and strangely enough on each of them is portrayed St. George overcoming the dragon, but differently designed in each case.

The 10 centimes stamp.

Of this value 5,493,000 copies were printed with mixed aniline inks of extremely poor quality.

Colour (at first), chocolate-brown.

It is impossible to give a list of shades, as the number of them is infinite: the colouring matter used was found to be extremely susceptible to the action of the air and of humidity. So much so that the colour will pass off a stamp and penetrate many thicknesses of paper laid on the top of it.

The attention of the Administration was drawn to this stamp's shortcomings, and the following special order was promulgated on February 28, 1897, giving notice of a change of colour :—

"Concerning a new issue of the 10 centimes postage stamp.

"Brussels, 1897.

"The brown colour used for the 2 centimes postage stamp has also been adopted for the 10 centimes inscribed 'Bruxelles—1897' (see paragraph 2 of the ministerial decree dated October 5, 1896).

"Since January 11 the Stamp Department has been issuing postage stamps inscribed 'Bruxelles—1897,' in the new colour, but none of these must

be sold at any post office until the existing stock on hand of the same stamp in the old colour has been disposed of.

"The Director-General
of Posts. The Director-General
of Telegraphs."

(Signed) "STERPIN. (Signed) DELARGE."

The new shade of the 10 centimes stamp was *terra-cotta*, there being 1,814,000 copies printed.

A minor variety is known, consisting of a protuberance on the nose of St. George; this is probably due to a bit of paper, or a speck of dirt, having become attached to the plate during printing.

The 5 centimes stamp.

This was issued on November 15, 1896, in a slate-violet colour: 6,406,800 copies were printed.

A very minor variety is known, consisting of a tiny dash, instead of a dot, on the Gothic "I" in "NIET."

The imperforate blocks of these stamps, which are occasionally seen, were not issued in that condition, but a few were presented to certain high officials as souvenirs.

(To be continued.)

A Type Collection Its Advantages and How to Form One

By BERTRAM W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 383.)

Method of arrangement

A TYPE collection should be arranged in strictly alphabetical order, and the following notes will be found to conform to this system. Thus "Aitutaki" will be found under "A," and not after New Zealand; "Chamba" will be found in the "C's," and not under the general heading of Indian Native States.

I have also arranged those stamps issued by various Governments for use in post offices maintained abroad under the respective countries in which they are used. Thus the British, French, German, etc. stamps surcharged for use in the various offices in the Turkish Empire will be found under "Turkey."

A blank album is, of course, a necessity for the philatelist who wishes to form a type collection. But if the stamps are carefully and neatly arranged on the plan suggested in the following notes, there should never be any need for rearrangement even if an ordinary blank bound book is used. An interchangeable album is best, and these notes regarding arrangement are based on the assumption that the collector has an "Oriel," or some other philatelic album of similar size.

In albums of this size each leaf will hold, on an average, five rows of stamps, and about six can be placed in a row. This gives plenty of room for display without overcrowding the pages. The collector cannot take too great pains in mounting his stamps. Neatness in mounting is everything, and the most perfect stamps look spoiled if they are slovenly mounted. If one stamp is to go on a row by itself, see that it is placed exactly in the centre. If there are to be five stamps in a row, see that they are equidistant from each other, and

that the third stamp is in the exact centre of the row, and so on. Also let the distance between each row of stamps on a page be the same, and see that the stamps are mounted perfectly straight. The care given to such apparently trifling details makes all the difference to the general appearance of a collection. The collector has every help in the quadrillé pattern that is now printed on the leaves of nearly every sort of blank album. It is easy, once the centre has been marked, to count off sufficient of the squares to obtain that mathematical precision in mounting which is so necessary if one's stamps are to show to the best advantage.

The pith of the matter

To briefly recapitulate, the type collection detailed in the following notes consists of a collection of stamps distinct from each other in design, and when a surcharge alters the nationality of a stamp this is considered a part of the design.

Gibbons Catalogue forms the basis of this collection, and should be used in conjunction with these notes. It will be noted there are three columns of numbers—the first refers to the number of the stamp in the type collection, the second corresponds to the type of illustration given in Gibbons Catalogue, and the third is the number of the stamp chosen, also according to Gibbons Catalogue. So far as is possible the cheapest variety has been chosen in each case, but in some instances it will be found possible to obtain a used stamp of a different value in the same type at a cheaper price. In these "exceptions" a number in parenthesis before the used price will explain which particular variety is cheaper.

Wherever the number of stamps in any country warrants it, I have added a plan showing the simplest and most attractive method of arranging the specimens.

Considerations of space make it impossible to include illustrations of all the types referred to, but these are, of course, all shown in Gibbons Catalogue.

* * *

Abyssinia.

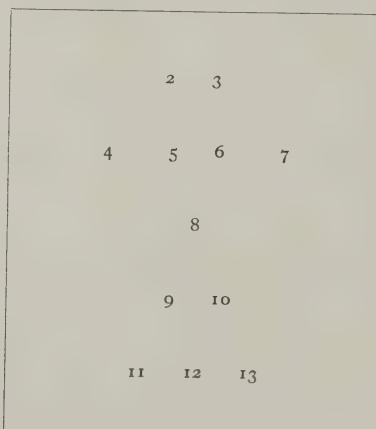
No.	Type.	Cat.	Unused.	Used.
		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1	1	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ g., green	0 2	(2) 0 2
2	2	5 4 g., claret	0 5	0 6
3	17	— $\frac{1}{2}$ g., pale green	—	—
4	18	— 2 g., deep blue.	—	—
5	19	— 8 g., orange-red & grn.	—	—

Afghanistan.

This is a difficult country to simplify, but I think the following list will be found to include all the main types:—

No.	Type.	Cat.	Unused.	Used.
		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
2	3	3a Shahi, black	30 0	15 0
3	11	Shahi, "	4 0	3 6
4	15	16 Sunar, purple	25 0	25 0
5	22	30 Shahi, grey	10 0	5 0
6	37	107 Shahi, green	3 0 (105) 2 0	—
7	41	209 1 a., carmine-rose	4 0	4 0
8	42	214 1 a., slate	10 0	5 0
9	45	218 1 a., green	3 6	2 0
10	46	233 2 a., black on green	10 0	5 0
11	49	246 1 a., green	—	—
12	50	247 2 a., deep blue.	—	—
13	51	248 1 r., blue.	—	—

The above may advantageously be displayed on the album page as follows:—

*Africa (Portuguese).*

No.	Type.	Cat.	Unused.	Used.
		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1	1	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ r., blue-green	0 1	0 1
2	2	2 5 r., vermillion	0 1	0 1
3	3	10 r., lilac	0 2	0 3
4	4	25 r., yellow-green	0 4	0 4
5	5	50 r., deep blue	0 6	0 4
6	6	75 r., chocolate	1 0	—
7	7	100 r., bistre-brown	1 6	0 10
8	8	150 r., ochre	1 9	1 6

These can best be arranged as follows:—

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
--	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Aitutaki.

No.	Type.	Cat.	Unused.	Used.
		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1	23	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., green	0 1	—
2	40	2 1d., carmine	0 2	—
3	27	3 $2\frac{1}{2}$ d., blue	0 4	—
4	28	4 3d., brown	0 5	—
5	31	5 6d., rose-red	0 8	—
6	34	7 1s., orange-red	1 6	—

The above are surcharged "AITUTAKI" in type as shown upon the stamps of

AITUTAKI.

Type 1.

New Zealand, to which stamps the types in the above list refer.

Albania. (See "Turkish Empire.")

Alexandria. (See "Egypt.")

Alsace and Lorraine.

No.	Type.	Cat.	Unused.	Used.
		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1	1	8a 10 c., pale brown	0 9	0 6

Alwar.

No.	Type.	Cat.	Unused.	Used.
		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1	1	6 $\frac{1}{2}$ a., slate-blue	0 1	0 2

Angola.

No.	Type.	Cat.	Unused.	Used.
		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1	1	44 20 r., rosine	0 1	(15) 0 4
2	2	56 5 r., black	0 1	0 1
3	3	94 5 r., orange-buff	0 1	0 2
4	5	101 $2\frac{1}{2}$ r., grey	0 1	0 1

Angra.

No.	Type.	Cat.	Unused.	Used.
		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1	1	19 5 r., orange-yellow	0 2	(4) 0 1
2	2	29 $2\frac{1}{2}$ r., grey	0 1	0 1

Anjouan.

No.	Type.	Cat.	Unused.	Used.
		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1	1	1 c., black on azure	0 1	0 2

Annam and Tonquin.

No.	Type.	Cat.	Unused.	Used.
			s. d.	s. d.
1	3	4	1 c. on 2 c., brown on buff	1 0 (1) 1 3
2	3	21	½d., dull green	0 3
3	4	31	½d., grey-green and black	0 1 0 2
4	5	40	5s., violet and green	6 6 —

Antigua.

No.	Type.	Cat.	Unused.	Used.
			s. d.	s. d.
1	1	25	1d., carmine	0 6
2	3	21	½d., dull green	0 3
3	4	31	½d., grey-green and black	0 1 0 2
4	5	40	5s., violet and green	6 6 —

Antioquia.

No.	Type.	Cat.	Unused.	Used.
			s. d.	s. d.
1	1	1	2½ c., blue	£15
2	2	2	5 c., green	—
3	3	3	10 c., lilac	£16
4	4	4	1 p., red	80 0
5	5	5	2½ c., pale blue	3 0
6	9	13	5 c., blue-green	2 0
7	7	9	10 c., mauve	5 0
8	7a	10	20 c., pale brown	1 6
9	8	11	1 p., carmine	10 0
10	10	14	1 c., yellow-green	3 0
11	11	16	5 c., green	5 0
12	12	17	10 c., mauve	25 0
13	13	18a	20 c., yellow-brown	6 0
14	14	19a	50 c., pale blue	2 0
15	20	20	1 p., red	2 0
16	21	22	2 p., black on yellow	5 0
17	17	22	5 p., " rose	20 0
18	18	25	1 c., black'	0 3
19	19	26	2½ c., deep blue	0 6
20	20	28	10 c., green	10 0
21	22	30	10 c., mauve	10 0
22	23	44	2½ c., grey-green	0 6
23	24	45	5 c., deep green	0 8
24	25	37	10 c., violet	—
25	26	48	10 c., vermillion	2 0
26	27	43	20 c., brown	0 6
27	28	61	5 c., "	0 6
28	29	64	10 c., blue on azure	1 0
29	30	59	20 c., blue	1 0
30	31	77	1 c., red on lilac	0 1 (67) 0 2
31	36	85	2½ c., black on buff	0 6
32	40	91	2½ c., black on pale blue	0 1 0 1

33	41	112	10 c. grey-brown	0 3 0 3
34	42	94	20 c., blue	1 0 0 9
35	43	95	50 c., brown	—
36	44	97	1 p., vermillion	2 6 2 6
37	45	99	5p., black on vermillion	15 0 15 0
38	46	107	1 c., blue	0 1 (111) 0 2
39	48	117	5 c., green	0 1 0 2
40	49	139	5 c., "	0 1 0 2
41	51	146	1 c., stone	0 1 —
42	53	153	3 c., green	0 1 0 1
43	54	156	5 c., rose-red	0 1 0 1
44	55	157	10 c., lilac	0 2 0 1
45	56	164	1 p., violet and black	0 6 —
46	58	167	4 c., pale brown	0 1 0 1
47	59	169	10 c., yellow	0 1 0 2
48	60	174	1 p., olive-grey	0 6 0 6
49	61	175	2 p., violet	1 0 —
50	62	176	3 p., deep blue	2 0 —
51	63	177	4 p., dull pink	4 0 —
52	64	178	5 p., brown-lilac	— —
53	65	179	10 p., carmine	— —

These will occupy three pages of an album and can best be arranged as follows :—

Page 1.

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 1 9
10	11	12	13 14
15	17	16	
18	19	20	21

Page 2.

22	23	24
25	26	27 28 29
30	31	
32	33	34 35 36 37
38	39	40

Page 3.

41				
42				
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44				
45				
46	47	48	49	50
51	52	53		

(To be continued.)

The Junior Philatelic Society Annual Dinner

THE annual dinner of the above Society was held at the Florence Restaurant, Rupert Street, W., on Saturday, May 22, the President, Mr. Fred J. Melville, being in the chair.

Seventy-two members and guests sat down to the excellent repast provided, amongst those present being Mrs. Melville, Mr. and Mrs. Field, Mr. and Mrs. Poole, Mr. Mount Brown, Messrs. Percy Bishop, W. S. Lincoln, H. F. Johnson, D. B. Armstrong, E. M. Gilbert Lodge, E. O. Phillips, C. B. Purdon, W. H. Andrews, J. W. Jones, J. Selinger, F. J. Lloyd, and many others.

We must congratulate the Society on the fact that this is their tenth season.

The dinner consisted of ten courses, the last course being "gâteau 'Philatelic,'" comprising a flat cake about eighteen inches square, covered with marzipan, representing the Three Lire Tuscany.

The first and second toasts were those of "The King," and "The Queen and the Royal Family," both proposed by the Chairman.

The third toast of the evening, "The Junior Philatelic Society," was proposed by Mr. C. B. Purdon.

He said that he had been wondering why he had been selected to propose this toast, since being a member of the Society he was in part proposing the toast of himself.

Perhaps to the fact that he had not yet paid his current subscription was due the honour of being called upon to propose this toast. He then proceeded to give a brief account of the early days of the Society, and its influence on the pursuit of Philately.

In the early days he said it was frequently a matter of speculation whether the Society would see another season.

Now, owing to the hard work and enthusiasm, coupled with the originality of method, all question as to its future prosperity had finally disappeared. He thought that, in years to come when the history of Philately came to be written, the work of the Junior Philatelic Society would be found to have had a wonderful effect on the Science of Stamp Collecting. Wonderful strides had been made during the last ten years, and by its new methods and business-like originality the Junior Philatelic Society had produced something like a revolution in Philately. No Society covers so wide a field and appeals to so many sorts of people as does the J.P.S.

The J.P.S. had done much to interest the

layman and the man engaged in every walk of life rather than to interest the specialist, and by the holding of exhibitions the Society has contrived to further that end. He could not close without coupling with the name of the Junior Philatelic Society, the names of the Hon. President and Hon. Treasurer, who by their unflagging energy, enthusiasm, hard work and enterprise had done everything to bring about that end.

The President, Mr. Fred J. Melville, on rising to reply, said: I thank you for the very cordial manner in which you have honoured this toast. I may congratulate you upon the Hon. Secretary being a man of more wisdom than words. I asked him for some statistics to include in my reply to this toast this evening. He only gave me one. The most gratifying thing I can tell you is that our tenth season has been the most prosperous of the ten. We have elected this season 403 new members. (Applause.)

He then went on to mention that he had in his hand a little book. It was a catalogue of postage stamps issued by his friend and fellow member Mr. Mount Brown in the year 1862.

After having read one or two most interesting passages therefrom, he stated that one of his chief reasons for starting the Society was his failure, on account of youth, to gain admission to one of the regular Societies of the period.

This Society, he said, was the progenitor of the Junior Societies of Liverpool and Manchester, and is the proud parent of the Brighton Junior Philatelic Society, and today there are similar societies in Edinburgh and Glasgow, in Australia, America, and Germany, and a promise of one in France. He then gave a list of the members who joined during the first season and were still members. He concluded a most excellent speech by mentioning that their chief reason for existing was to promote the interests of Philately, and that they can only do this by having a firm belief in their hobby.

Mr. E. M. Gilbert Lodge in a very breezy speech proposed "The Ladies and Visitors." He mentioned, amongst other things, that the J.P.S. stood alone in encouraging the presence of ladies.

Mrs. D. Field, who had been largely responsible for the arrangements for the dinner, replied on behalf of the ladies in a most suitable little speech.

Mr. Frank Terry replied on behalf of the visitors in the absence of Mr. James B.

Melville, the first Secretary of the Society (1899).

Mr. James Feeney then proposed "The Stamp Trade."

Mr. W. S. Lincoln, in replying, said that he was most grateful to Mr. Feeney for the generous appreciation of the trade. He remembered collecting stamps when he was a boy at school, and said that he had by him now a little book in which is written "Collection of Stamps made by W. Lincoln 1854." There was also a mention made of two hundred and ten varieties. If he had those stamps to-day he was of the opinion that they could not represent a value of less than £5 per stamp. In 1856 for the first time he found a friend with whom he could exchange stamps.

From that beginning he began to deal, and only that day he had come across a little catalogue, one of the first he circulated, in which there is an item :—

"Sydney Views 1d. 20 varieties offered at 4/- each."

"Sydney Views 2d. 14 varieties offered at 4/- each."

He regretted now that they were, of course, all sold, but it serves to show how the value of stamps has increased, although the trade itself, in comparison with other trade, is quite a new one.

Mr. F. J. Lloyd in proposing "The Philatelic Press" hinted that he would like to see *less* reprinted and *more* original matter in some of the journals. He also mentioned that we ought, in this country, to have a National and Imperial Stamp Collection. He also thought that more might be done by the Press in putting down forgeries.

Mr. Percy Bishop replied on behalf of the Press. He said that in two more years' time he would have been writing for the Philatelic Press for twenty-five years.

Some few years ago there was, he said, no profit attached to a philatelic paper, except to the printer. Now, however, owing to the ever-increasing popularity of our hobby, he was glad to say that there were several stamp papers, which if they were not very profitable were at least paying their way.

Mr. D. Field proposed the health of the President, Mr. Fred Melville, and said that the wonderful success of the J.P.S. had been to a very great extent due to his originality and his untiring efforts. He particularly referred to the success of the exhibitions.

This toast was accorded musical honours, all the members and guests standing up and singing "For he's a jolly good fellow."

The President briefly replied, and a most enjoyable evening was concluded by all singing the National Anthem.

A Philatelic Pastime

By J. W. H. HESLOP

In a Continental paper I recently saw a picture made up of scraps of cut stamps; it was something like the following description of it, but not quite so elaborate. Take a 2½d. stamp of St. Kitts, cut out Columbus with the telescope and stick him down on the right-hand corner of a big sheet of paper. Now give him some stars to spy at: these can be cut out of the stamps of Japan, Swiss Unpays, and other stamps where stars are distributed in the background; stick these up in the sky; add a few suns from the stamps of Peru, a moon—if one can be found—some lightning from the 10c. Uruguay, and other aerial phenomena. Lower down put in a background of trees and greenery cut from the stamps of Hayti, Portuguese Nyassa, etc.; add a volcano from Guatemala, a waterfall from Jamaica, and various scenery cut from the 1895 Mexicos, Vasco da Gamas, etc. A river in the distance with a canoe upon it, or a sea scene with a steamer, or a landscape with trains, bridges, etc.—these items lend life and grace to the picture, and examples come readily to hand. Add a few mountains, and a plain with the pyramids of

Egypt on it, and fill in the background with monuments, buildings, and figures of men and animals. Birds, cut from Hungary 1900, should swarm aloft.

This is an idea which can be extended indefinitely, and the result is a regular philatelic puzzle. The thing to do is to stick in as much as one can (give Columbus something to look at!), and to so fit in the scraps that they not only present the appearance of mosaic work (of a kind), but are also happy in their harmonious relationship to each other. Clever amalgamations may be perpetrated here and there, such as the contiguity of a French Sower with the Farming-in-the-West scene on the 2c. Omaha.

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£1 15s., post-free and registered.

Notes on the Reprints, Forgeries, Proofs, Essays, Printers' Waste, etc., of the Stamps of the Italian States

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

[I READ these "notes" at a meeting of the Herts Philatelic Society last March, and they have been printed in the *Report* of that Society, but were held over from *G.S.W.* owing to my absence abroad. I reproduce them in order to draw attention to the necessity of study of all reprints and forgeries.—C. J. P.]

THIS evening I have the pleasure of showing the "Reference Collection" of the stamps of the Italian States collected by Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.

Nowadays, owing to the increasing cleverness of the forgery-monger, it has become absolutely necessary for all stamp dealers who wish to protect the interests of their clients (and, incidentally, their own pockets) to closely study the stamps in which they deal, and with this aim in view I have, during the past fifteen to twenty years, spent a great deal of time and money in forming a collection of reprints, forgeries, proofs, essays, colour trials, printers' waste, photographs, postmarks, etc.

Owing to the little spare time at my disposal, I regret to say that a great portion of this collection is not even mounted in albums, and what is mounted is in many cases not properly classed and written up; but to give you some idea of what such a collection may run to, I may say that I have now thirty-six Oriel Albums full of stamps, of which I have brought with me to-night four volumes containing the stamps of the Italian States.

Amongst the stamps of the Continent of Europe I think there is no group that has suffered so much from forgeries and reprints as have the districts composing the Italian States.

In this group we have also to guard against another danger in addition to reprints and forgery of the stamps, and that is, the forgery of the obliterations, owing to the fact that many Italian stamps are common unused but very rare used, and it therefore becomes necessary to form a reference collection of genuine postmarks as well as of all known types of the forged postmarks.

I believe I am correct in saying that there is only one collection in the world that contains practically all the essential material for the purpose of exposing *all* frauds in Italian stamps. I refer to that of my friend Dr. Emilio Diena, of Rome.

I will now give a few brief details of each section of the collections I have put before you this evening.

Modena.

Here I show a number of stamps on letters with forged postmarks. You will also see some notes about the differences between genuine and forged postmarks, but it is not advisable to make such details public.

Then we have some pages of forged stamps, but none of these forgeries are really dangerous.

I then show the full sheets of the five values of the 1859 issue, which were printed by Mr. A. E. Fiechi in 1907, he having obtained an original *dîe* and reproduced this on plates having twenty-four impressions of each value. The figures of value in these imitations being much smaller than in original stamps, they are not at all dangerous.

Lastly, there are a number of "printers' proofs," or colour trials, such as the 1852 issue, 5 c. on yellow, on blue, on rose paper, 25 c. on green, and so on. I have often seen these proofs offered by dealers, who have not studied their business, as rare errors at several pounds each, and although some are scarce, they are only worth a comparatively small amount.

Lastly, I draw attention to two of the 1852 40 c., pale blue. This is a very rare stamp unused, worth quite £20. The faker takes the common 40 c., deep blue, value 5s., and fades the colour to a pale blue; but luckily he cannot get the true shade of the rarity.

Naples.

I show, first, the reprints made by L. Bottaco in 1898.

I have the $\frac{1}{2}$ and 50 grana in brown, printed from the dies before they were cleaned, and the $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, 5, 10, 20, and 50 grana in rose-red, printed from the cleaned dies.

A rather good forgery is the pair of 50 grana, which are printed on genuine paper with watermark, the colour having been faded out of some 2 grana stamps. These are said to be the work of Onegli, of Turin.

The 2, 10, and 20 grana of Naples were extensively forged while the stamps were current. I have two types of the 2 grana and five types each of the 10 and 20 grana. These "forgeries used postally" are much rarer than used originals.

Lastly, I show ordinary forged stamps. You will notice that the blue "arms" and "cross" exist in very many different varieties.

Neapolitan Provinces.

The 10 grana was forged while the stamps were current, and I show a number of them mostly used in Naples.

All stamps of the Neapolitan Provinces are rarer used than unused—some much rarer, such as the 50 grana. I show a number of genuine stamps on letters with all the postmarks forged and with genuine postmarks for comparison. These clever forgeries are said to be the work of Dario Balbi, of Genoa.

Lastly, you will see proofs of all the values except the 1 grano in black, and a quantity of printers' waste, without the embossed heads, printed on both sides, and so on.

Parma.

I draw your attention to two very dangerous fakes. The one is a strip of 5 c., black on yellow, on letter, and one stamp in the strip inverted. The other is a 5 c., black on rose, printed on the back of a genuine 15 c.

Here again we have some of the fine postmark-forging of Sr. Balbi. The 80 c. on letters (three different varieties of postmark) are very well done. The unused 80 c. is worth 50s.; a genuine used 80 c. would be cheap at £100, as very few are known.

The usual forgeries follow.

Romagna.

Here we have a very large number of reprints. The first of these seem to have been made by Usigli, of Turin; he then sold a lot of the original casts to J. B. Moens, who made a second lot of reprints in May, 1892. I believe these were in panes of sixteen stamps.

In 1895 Moens resold the casts to a Paris dealer, who in turn sold them to J. Goldner, of Hamburg.

In January, 1897, Goldner had electro-types made from the casts and reprinted all the values in sheets of sixty stamps.

I also show a number of essays produced by Adriano Amoretti, of Bologna, also other sets made in 1869 by G. Gozo, who produced the nine values on a sheet, each one surrounded by a rectangle frame made up of seven lines. I show sets in eleven different colours.

The stamps of Romagna are rare used, especially the 6 baj., green, while they are very common unused.

I show a large number of genuine stamps, both on and off letters, with forged postmarks.

San Marino.

I have not arranged the forgeries of this country, but I show full-sized photographs

of sheets of the provisionals of 1892, in which there are so many varieties of the surcharge.

Sicily.

I show a number of the proofs of the adopted type made by La Barbera and Lao, of Palermo, in 1858; all these are decidedly scarce.

Next we have genuine stamps with forged postmarks, and then the ordinary forgeries.

Tuscany.

I show a large number of printers' proofs on plain and on coloured paper, also some with forged watermark.

Here are also sets of the forgeries of Venturini, of Florence, and proofs in many colours in blocks of four of the forgeries of Onegli.

A large quantity of old forgeries follow.

Sardinia.

It is most important to study well the reprints of the stamps of 1853 and 1854, as many of them approximate very closely to the originals.

Reprints were made:

About 1865 by Matraire, of Turin.

" 1877 " Usigli, of Florence.

" 1889 " David Cohn, of Berlin.

Many of these reprints are frequently found with forged postmarks.

I also show a large number of essays, printers' waste, colour trials, etc.

Kingdom of Italy.

I show a number of sheets of reprints, also a number of genuine stamps with forged perforations and postmarks.

The 15 c., blue, of 1863 was forged while in use, but these forgeries used postally are very rare. I show the 15 c., blue, which was used in Naples, and the 15 c., black, which was used at Aquila.

I show an interesting page of colour trials of the De La Rue stamps of 1863.

Roman States.

The 5 and 8 baj. of 1852 were forged while in use, and I show a number that have passed the post.

The 7 baj., blue, was formerly catalogued printed *tête-bêche*, but it is now known that this only exists as a forgery, and I show the full sheet of twenty stamps. The inverted stamp is No. 5 on the top row.

I have taken a great deal of trouble to get at the complete history of the reprints of the stamps of the Roman States, and I think the following information is correct as far as it goes.

Usigli, of Florence, secured a large number of the type-cast blocks, and in 1878 made the following reprints:—

2 c. in sheets of 80 stamps.		
3 c. " " 78 "	four stamps being inverted and two spaces vacant.	
3 c. " " 80 "	four stamps inverted and no spaces vacant.	
20 c. " " 64 "		
20 c. " " 80 "		
40 c. " " 56 "	no tête-bêche.	
40 c. " " (?) "	with tête-bêche.	
40 c. " " 20 "	in four rows of five stamps, the first and third rows being all inverted.	
80 c. " " 80 "		

Usigli then sold all his clichés to Bonasi, of Rome.

From these clichés Bonasi made two electro-typed plates of each value, each of sixty electros, and sold a set of plates to J. B. Moens.

In 1889 Moens used these plates to print reprints of all values in sheets of 120 stamp (two panes of sixty each), and sold them imperf. and perf. 12.

Early in 1890 Bonasi sold a duplicate set of plates to Gelli and Tani, of Brussels, and they reprinted all the values both imperf. and perf. 11½. I have also the 2 c. of these reprints perf. 13.

Later on in 1890 Bonasi sold a third set of plates to David Cohn in Berlin, and he reprinted all values both imperf. and perf.

In the Cohn reprints, the first impressions were pulled on a hand press, and there are no marks on the margins of the sheets. Later impressions were made by a steam printing-press, and the right and left hand margins of each sheet are marked with a black crescent with a dot in the curve.

I show a nearly complete set of sheets of all these reprints.

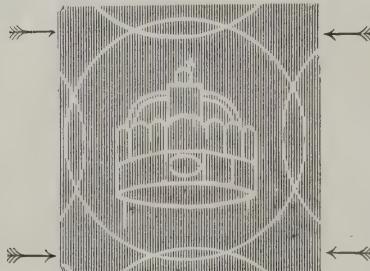
Foreign Notes

By FRANK PHILLIPS

Hungarian Watermarks

AS will at once be seen from my publishers' Catalogue, the well-known watermark extending over four stamps, which is called the "Crown of St. Stephen," exists on the 1898 and 1900-4 issues of the Postage stamps, the 1898 and 1900 issues of the Newspaper stamps, and the 1899 issue of the Journal Tax stamps.

Mr. Ph. Wolff calls attention to a rather curious point connected with this watermark, which is illustrated below about three-quarter size.



He sends us copies of the 1900-4 issue of Postage stamps in which the watermark is just as it is illustrated above, and others in which there is a diamond-shaped figure in each of the cushion-shaped spaces formed by the intersection of the large circles; the spaces where the diamonds are to be seen are indicated by arrows in the above illustration.

I have examined a number of stamp showing this watermark, and I have not yet found any of the Newspaper or Journal Tax stamps showing the above peculiarity, but have found many of the values of the 1900-issue of Postage stamps with and without diamonds.

Still more curious is the watermark shown by a block of four of the 3 filler, orange (1900-4), in which two of the cushion shaped spaces are clearly visible; one shows the diamond, and the other does not.

Does this point to some unnoticed detail in the design of the watermark as regards a whole sheet? Perhaps diamonds occur in every second, fourth, or eighth space or according to some other symmetrical arrangement. In any event, perhaps some one of my readers may have made discoveries in this direction. If so I should be very grateful for any information.

Customs Duty in Mauritius

MR. T. S. EDWARDS writes me that a duty of 12 per cent *ad valorem* has been levied on all stamps coming into the colony, and that the Customs now detain all registered letters and parcels for inspection.

It is a great pity that such rigid protection should exist as between Great Britain and some of her colonies, particularly where, as in this case, it does not benefit home industries.

Abyssinia

A NEW issue of seven values was illustrated and described in *G.S.W.* dated March 27 last, the design of the three lower values being identical.

A correspondent of *Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste* gives an exceedingly interesting description of the arms portrayed on the low-value stamps:—

"Without attempting to describe the tiara or the draped cloak, which are sufficiently obvious, I would draw your attention to the central portion. . . . I cannot say of the coat of arms, as there are none in Abyssinia.

"The central subject of the device represents the Throne of Solomon, of whom the Negus Menelik is a direct descendant on the female side. Throughout the East this throne is most celebrated, Abyssinians and Mussulmans telling a thousand stories concerning it. In front of the throne is a lion, and above it a small tablet, in which I think the inscription in Hebrew characters reads 'SCHLM' (Solomon or Jehovah?). The Throne of Solomon was preserved in a monastery on one of the islands in Lake Zouai, together with the crown of the old kings. Both these things disappeared during the civil wars.

"We also see two angels, one of which is helmeted, and holds a sword in one hand and the scales of Justice in the other; the head of the second angel is bare, and he is holding a sceptre and an olive-branch. No explanation is necessary here as to the symbolic meaning, seeing that the arms of several European sovereigns are quartered with the Scales of Justice and the Sceptre. Nevertheless, there is a certain legend current in Abyssinia, in which it is told that two angels carried down from the heavens a crown, which they placed on the head of Negus Maratla-Haimanot, the head of the holy dynasty of the Zagues, who, in 977, drove out the Jewish dynasty of the Falaxhas. This subject is portrayed in many pictures hung in the chief churches of the country."

British P.O. at Marrakesh

ANOTHER post office has been opened in Morocco under the administration of the Gibraltar postal authorities. Captain H. R. Brancher has been kind enough to send me the following official notice, taken from the *Gibraltar Chronicle and Official Gazette*:—



"GOVERNMENT NOTICE.

"It is hereby notified, for general information, that a British Post Office having been opened at Marrakesh, Morocco, for the transaction of general Postal business, His Excellency the

GOVERNOR has been pleased to direct that the rate of postage on letters exchanged between Gibraltar and the British Office at Marrakesh shall be fixed at one penny the ounce or fraction thereof as from this date.

"By Command,

"FRED. EVANS,

"Colonial Secretary.

"COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE,

"Gibraltar, 8th April, 1909."

Marrakesh is the chief town of Morocco, and is frequently referred to as "Morocco" (the town) in England, but the latter is really the name of the country only, and not of the town. Marrakesh is termed the southern capital of Morocco, and there it was in August last year that the army of Sultan Abdul Aziz was routed, Mulai Hafid immediately afterwards being proclaimed Sultan.

A French Postal Museum

IT is nearly eight years ago since we stated that it was the intention of the Administration of Posts to install a postal museum in the Hôtel de Martignac.

Perhaps we shall see the completion of the project at the end of this year; the idea of such a museum was first mooted by us in 1864. Now the question of moving into new quarters is all that remains to be considered.

The ground floor of No. 107 of the Rue de Grenelle will be the *locale* of the new museum; there are three or four spacious rooms at the disposal of the authorities, but at present they are piled full of all kinds of objects intended for classification and exhibition. The list comprises all kinds of telegraphic apparatus, including the remains of the famous apparatus invented by Chappe, old letter boxes, models of postal railway vans, and many other things.

It is said that the official collection of postage stamps will be exhibited. Within the last few weeks show cases and glassed frames have been requisitioned and the work of arrangement begun. We hope that the public will soon be free to examine at least a portion of the great collection.

Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste.

Ceylon

MR. SHELTON D. BLACKER has kindly forwarded a cutting from the *Ceylon Independent*, dated April 17, which reads as follows:—

"In place of the present 4 cents, 12 cents, 75 cents, R1.50, and R2.25 stamps, the post office authorities have made an application for 10 cents, 50 cents, R1, R2, R5 and R10 stamps, and they may be available for issue from next year. These stamps are to be used for telegrams, and will save people the trouble of sending money to the post office."

From the wording of the foregoing paragraph it would seem that the stamps referred to are intended for the prepayment of telegrams only, but as a matter of fact I expect they will be available for ordinary postal use as well. This is still more probable in face of the recent revision of the Indian Postal Regulations, the effect of which has led, I believe, to the suppression of the special Telegraph stamp. The Indian and Cingalese postal administrations are run on very similar lines.

Tercenary Issue of Canada

THE following extract from the Canadian *House of Commons Debates* has kindly been sent to me by Mr. A. McKechnie, F.R.P.S.L., of Ottawa :—

"Tercenary Postage Stamps."

"Mr. PERLEY asked :

"1. What was the total amount received by the Post Office Department from the sale of the special Tercenary stamps?

"2. What part of this sum would probably have been received as ordinary revenue if there had been no special issue of stamps?

"Hon. RODOLPHE LEMIEUX (Postmaster-General) : The following was the issue to postmasters of the Tercenary postage stamps :—

Denominations.	Quantities.	Value.
½ cent	2,000,000	\$ 10,000 00
1 "	22,530,000	225,300 00
2 "	35,100,000	702,000 00
5 "	1,200,000	60,000 00
7 "	700,000	49,000 00
10 "	500,000	50,000 00
15 "	300,000	45,000 00
20 "	304,200	60,840 00
Totals	62,634,200	\$1,202,140 00

"The department has no knowledge whether the stamps in question have all been sold, as during their issue the ordinary postage stamps were also on sale, both issues being in use as preferred by the public. The proceeds derived from the sale of stamps of the two issues were not kept separately, but treated as arising from a common source. It is, therefore, impossible to state to what extent the issue of the Tercenary postage stamps may have affected the ordinary revenue. At the ordinary period fixed by the department for squaring these accounts, we may be able to give the approximate value."

Another United States Commemorative

"TRULY we are making philatelic history these days. A new 2 c. stamp is to be issued commemorating the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific section of our national history as it is typified in the Seattle Exposition so soon to be opened.

"We are indebted to Chas. R. Morris for the earliest information though Marcel E. Taller and Dr. S. E. Young follow with newspaper clippings giving practically the same facts.

"The stamp is to be unique in design and the following description will be read with interest :—

"The new stamp is to be rectangular in form and of the same size as that issued to commemorate the Jamestown Exposition. Panels at the top and bottom contain respectively the words : 'U.S. POSTAGE' and 'TWO CENTS.' In the centre of the stamp the larger part of a circle rests on the lower panel and encloses a ribbon bearing the inscription : 'ALASKA-YUKON-PACIFIC 1909'; the circle frames the picture of a seal standing on a cake of ice. On either side of the stamp is an ellipse containing the Arabic numerals '2,' with laurel branches in the background. It is expected that the stamps will be placed on sale about June 1, the opening day of the exposition.

"A portion of the above design had been approved by Mr. Geo. von L. Meyer, for a envelope stamp, and it would have made a very pretty one with the seal standing out in embossing, but it was found that the envelope contractor would not be able to have them ready for distribution in time and it was then decided to have the adhesive. The design was then worked over to suit the purpose. P. M. Gen'l Hitchcock approved the design of the new stamp April 3.

"As we go to press Chas. F. Heyerman submits a clipping from the *Detroit Free Press* which reads as follows :—

"OBJECT TO ICE DESIGN."

"*'Yukon Exposition Stamps Excite Remonstrance from Promoters.'*

"SEATTLE, April 9.—The merchants of Seattle, aroused by reports that the special issue of stamps being prepared to commemorate the opening of the Seattle Exposition contain in the design a cake of ice on which a seal is reposing have entered a protest.

"A despatch was sent by the Chamber of Commerce to-day to Secretary of the Interior Ballinger urging him to make an effort to have the design changed, as one of the objects of the fair is to show the world that Alaska can raise something besides icebergs."

Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News.

English as She is Writ

No! A stamp dealer's life is not a happy one! At least, that of his clerk who has to elucidate the meaning of some of the foreign letters is not. As an example, I reproduce the following model of conciseness, which was received the other morning :—

Constantinos J. Constantinides

Maratheftin

Limassol Chypre

May 1909

My dear friend

S. tanley gibbons

391 stand

London

England

Your pray very like my return the your bites and of your gatalongs and your shall of your kind. I have and houses where thy spend large quaqhty of your kinds. Ask and the your deputation and my write and of limit where you work and the Honoar every thing

CONSTANTINOS J. CONSTANTINIDES

Maratheftin

Of course, the above order was despatched without any hesitation!!

New Issues and Discoveries

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Austria.—Mr. Wm. Ward informs us that he has the 1 h., 2 h., and 3 h. of the Jubilee set on blue paper; up to the present these three stamps have been known on white paper only.



20



21



22

1909. Types 20 to 22. Perf. 12½.
 400a 1 h., black on blue.
 401a 2 h., violet on "
 402a 3 h., violet on "

Bosnia and Herzegovina.—Mr. C. Stewart Wilson, I.C.S., has kindly sent us the following list of new varieties of perforation.



51

POSTAGE DUE STAMPS. Type 51.
 (b) Perf. 10½.

319a	10 h., black, red, and yellow.
319b	20 h. "
319c	30 h. "
	Perf. 9.
10 h.	black, red, and yellow.
20 h.	" "
30 h.	" "
(c)	Perf. 12½, 13, and 10½ compound.
322d	10 h., black, red, and yellow.
322f	50 h. "
(d)	Perf. 12½, 13, and 9 compound.
332a	10 h., black, red, and yellow.
332b	20 h. "
332c	50 h. "

British Somaliland.—A correspondent has shown us the 1 a. printed in one colour, and the 2 a. on surfaced paper.



2

1909. Type 2. Centre in first colour. Wmk. Multiple Crown CA, Type w 8. Perf. 14.
 47½ 2 a., dull and bright purple, C.

1909. Type 2. Wmk. Multiple Crown CA, Type w 8. Perf. 14.
 56 1 a., carmine, O.

Guatemala.—Some of our readers have probably noticed that, in our issue of last week, we



49

illustrated the 2 centavos instead of the 2 pesos as Type 49. The correct illustration is as above.

Nicaragua.—Still more provisionals that have been shown to us by a correspondent. It will be noticed that they are new surcharges on the old stamps printed by the American Bank Note Company.

VALE 10¢
42a

37

1909. Type 37 surcharged as Type 42a, vertically upwards, in black.
 341b 2 p., deep green.
 331c 5 p., purple.

CABO VALE 10¢

38

C7

1909. Type 37 surcharged vertically (downwards), in yellow-brown, as Type 38 (round, thick "O"), but with character for "CENTS" inverted, and overprinted with Type C 7 (vertically downwards), in black.
 535 6 c., slate (No. 337).

Philatelic Societies

Junior Philatelic Society Brighton Branch

*President : F. J. Melville.
Chairman : W. Mead.
Hon. Sec. : J. Ireland, 103 Western Road, Hove.
Meeting-place : Royal Hotel, Queen's Road.
Meetings : Second and fourth Thursdays, 7 till 10 p.m.*

THE fourteenth meeting of the present session was held on April 22 at the Royal Hotel, Brighton. In the absence of Mr. Mead the chair was taken by Mr. W. Cyril Owen.

Lieut.-Colonel L. M. Kennedy was elected a member on the proposition of the Secretary and Mr. G. H. Type.

A letter was read from Mr. Herbert F. Johnson, asking for exhibits for the Philatelic Exhibition to be held at Earl's Court during the summer. Mr. A. W. Streete offered to send some exhibits of essays and a block of twelve go c. of 1870.

Mr. G. H. Type gave a magnificent display of "King's Head" stamps, most countries being shown complete up to the £1 value where issued. Every stamp was in mint condition, and the artistic arrangement of the sets was greatly admired. Mr. Type also informed the meeting that the initials of the designer of the Barbados Nelson stamps, Mr. G. W. Goodman, could be found in the two lower corners of the Nelson issue, worked in as part of the design.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Type on the proposition of Messrs. A. W. Streete and J. Jonas.

The fifteenth meeting of the session was held on May 13 at the Royal Hotel, Mr. Mead being in the chair.

The Chairman drew the attention of members to the anniversary dinner to be held at the Florence Restaurant, Piccadilly, on May 22, and expressed the hope that as many members would be present as possible.

A letter was read from the Hon. Sec. of the Manchester Philatelic Congress, Mr. J. J. Darlow, suggesting that some provision should be incorporated in the rules for disposing of the stamps of deceased members if requested by executors. This was referred to the Committee.

The Chairman then introduced the subject of the "Beginners' Night," which was down for the evening programme, and expressed the pleasure he felt at seeing so many, who had not previously contributed to the programme, had brought their albums to the meeting.

Miss Foster brought a general collection in an Ideal Album—a special feature being the number of Afghanistan stamps shown. Mr. Morley showed a general collection of British Colonials in a Standard Album, fine copies being his strong point. Mr. Duncombe's collection in an Ideal Album included a very fine show of Persia, which was nearly complete. The Secretary showed "The Rest of the World," arranged à la the Simple Life, and—whisper it low—a collection of "multiples and chalkies" arranged in a Paragon Album.

There was a very good attendance, and the meeting was a decided success.

Leeds Philatelic Society

*President : C. W. Harding.
Hon. Secretary : T. S. Fraser, 22 Oriental Terrace, Armley, Leeds.
Meetings : Tuesdays (7.15 p.m.), Room B3, Leeds Institute Cookridge Street.
Annual Subscription : 5s.*

At the meeting of this Society held in the Leeds Institute on Tuesday, February 20, Mr. G. Davis was to have given a display of some recent issues, but, owing to delay in regaining possession of his stamps, which were left in the train, the "show" was postponed to a later date. The Stamp Auction in itself, however, was sufficient to fill the evening, and this was quite as successful as the preceding ones. Some fine lots of foreign and colonial stamps were brought under the hammer, and fair prices were realized after spirited bidding. The Hon. Auctioneer, Mr. J. E. Kitchen, was thanked for his service.

Novelties shown were:—Complete set of the new Rhodesian provisional stamps, value ½d. to £1, mixed, with varieties of overprint, by Mr. W. G. Findlater, and a specialist's album with movable clips, so that stamps may be mounted and transferred without removal from the slips, by Mr. W. V. Morten.

Messrs. W. and A. Oxley, of Dewsbury, were elected full members of the Society.

Sind Philatelic Society

*President : Framroze E. Panthakey.
Hon. Secretary : B. J. H. Somake.
Meetings : First Friday in each month, 8 p.m.
Annual Subscription, 4s.*

The sixth meeting was held at the Y.M.C.A. rooms on Tuesday, May 11, 1909, at 7.30 p.m. There were present : Mr. Framroze E. Panthakey, President, in the chair, Messrs. E. A. Pearson, D. J. Sicé, J. Woodsell, and B. J. H. Somake, Honorary Secretary. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Mr. J. M. Moses, of Messrs. David Sassoon and Co., Bombay, was elected a corresponding member.

A memorial to H.E. the Governor-General in Council was drawn by the Honorary Secretary and put before the meeting; the memorial deals with the abolishing the 5 per cent custom duty at present levied by the authorities on the prices of stamps. It was decided to invite the co-operation of other societies, especially the Indian Philatelic Society, and then approach Government. The home societies and dealers, who are also affected by this most unreasonable taxation, should, the members were of opinion, move in the matter also.

The Honorary Secretary moved whether the chalky paper, King's Head, M.C.A., should be catalogued as a separate issue. After a little discussion, in which the members were of opinion that this step only meant further embarrassment to the young collector, the beginner, and even the advanced collector, and that it was distinctly a blockade in the paths of stamp collectors, it was finally proposed by Mr. E. A. Pearson, and seconded by Mr. D. J. Sicé, "That in the opinion of this Society the chalky papers should be ignored by stamp collectors as a separate issue."

The day and hour of meeting were changed from second Tuesday in the month at 7.30 p.m. to first Friday in the month at 8 p.m.

THE KING'S OWN POSTAGE STAMP ALBUM

This Album has been specially designed for those collectors who either commence a collection with the Postage Stamps of King Edward VII, or who collect these stamps as a supplement to a General Collection. The King's Own Album contains 100 pages of heavy white plate paper outlined with a neat border of neutral grey, with quadrillé background inside the grey border, and name space at the top of each page. Exact size of leaves from the outer edge, $7\frac{1}{2} \times 9\frac{1}{2}$; available for mounting stamps, $6\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{4}$. The title-page is printed in the Royal Colours, with the King's Cypher Monogram and Crown. Strongly bound in cloth, bevelled boards, with the Official Cypher Monogram and Crown in gold on cover.

Post-free, 8s.; abroad, 8s. 9d.

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.,
391 Strand, London, W.C.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

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JUNE 19, 1909

VOL. IX.

The Postage Stamps of Belgium—*contd.*

By CH. DE BONT

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(Continued from page 395.)

ISSUE OF MAY 1, 1905.

IN order to commemorate the seventy-fifth anniversary of the National Independence, the Minister of Railways, Posts, and Telegraphs decided to issue the postage stamps of 10 centimes and upwards



in new designs. Below are given the decrees and regulations referring to this issue:—

"Post Office "Telegraph Department
"No. 464. "No. 526.

"Concerning the issue of new postage stamps.

"LEOPOLD II, KING OF THE BELGIANS.

"To all who are present, and to those to come.
"GREETING.

"IN PURSUANCE of paragraph 40 of the law of May 30, 1879, authorizing the Government to issue postage stamps, etc.

"AND HAVING DULY CONSIDERED Our Decree dated May 14, 1893, authorizing the current postage stamps.

"AT THE REQUEST of Our Minister of Railways, Posts, and Telegraphs:—

"WE HAVE DECREED AND DO DECREE:—

"1. The postage stamps of 10 centimes and upwards are to be issued in new designs, bearing Our effigy.

"2. Postage stamps of the design now current will be available for use until they are exhausted.

"Our Minister of Railways, Posts, and Telegraphs is commanded to enforce the terms of this decree. "Given at Laeken, March 25, 1905.

(Signed) "LEOPOLD."

"By the King.

"The Minister of Railways,
Posts, and Telegraphs.

(Signed) "J. LIEBAERT."

"THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, POSTS, AND TELEGRAPHHS.

"PURSUANT to paragraph 2 of the Royal Decree of June 9, 1884, authorizing the Minister of Public Works (actually of Railways, Posts, and

Telegraphs) to determine the values, colours, and dates of issue of the stamps and postal franking formulæ in general:—

"AND PURSUANT to the Royal Decree of March 25, 1905, ordering the issue of the postage stamps of 10 centimes and upwards in new designs:— "DECREES:—

"1. The postage stamps shall be provided with a detachable label inscribed 'NE PAS LIVRER LE DIMANCHE—NIET BESTELLEN OP ZONDAG,' the use of which is set forth in a Ministerial Decree dated May 15, 1893.

"2. The values and colours of the said postage stamps shall be as follows:—

10 centimes	.	.	carmine.
20 "	.	.	reseda.
25 "	.	.	blue.
35 "	.	.	red-brown.
50 "	.	.	grey.
1 franc	:	.	orange.
2 francs	:	.	lilac.

"3. The 20, 25, and 35 centimes stamps will be the first three values of the new set to be issued; they will be on sale on May 1 next.

"Brussels, April 15, 1905.

(Signed) "J. LIEBAERT."

"THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, POSTS, AND TELEGRAPHHS.

"Circular issued by the Administration of Posts.

"A Royal Decree dated March 25, 1905, ordered the issue of the postage stamps of 10 centimes and upwards in new designs.

"The postage stamps of the designs now current will be available for use until they are exhausted.

"A Ministerial Decree dated April 15, 1905, orders that the new postage stamps be provided with a detachable label, inscribed 'NR PAS LIVRER LE DIMANCHE—NIET BESTELLEN OP ZONDAG'; the sender may tear off such label before using a stamp if he so desires.

"The 20, 25, and 35 centimes stamps will be put on sale on May 1 next. The date of issue of the remaining values will be announced later.

"The General Secretary.

(Signed) "CH. RAMAEKERS."

The following is the Service Order referring to the issue of the new stamps.

"No. 13 P-3 T. "Service Order.

"ADMINISTRATION OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHHS.

"Concerning the issue of new postage stamps.

"The postage stamps of 10 centimes and upwards will be issued in new designs.

"The 20, 25, and 35 centimes stamps will be the first values to be issued; they are to be placed on sale on May 1 next. It is absolutely forbidden to sell any before that date.

"All officials are instructed to use up the old stamps first as far as possible; new stamps are only to be issued to persons asking for them specially.

"In order that the old stamps may be used up rapidly, official documents and packages should be franked with them as far as possible.

"Post offices will be supplied with the new stamps by the Distributing Office in such quantities as are estimated to be sufficient until the end of June.

"The Director-General of Telegraphs.
(Signed) "DELARGE."

"The Director-General of Posts.
(Signed) "STERPIN."

On May 22, 1905, the following Ministerial Decree was promulgated, fixing the date of issue of the 10 centimes:—

"Posts No. 466. "Telegraphs No. 527.

"Concerning the issue of new postage stamps.

"THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, POSTS, AND TELEGRAPHS.

PURSUANT TO the Royal Decrees dated December 24, 1870, December 19, 1872, and December 5, 1882, authorizing the Minister of Public Works (actually of Railways, Posts, and Telegraphs) to determine the design, etc., of stamps and postal stationery.

AND HAVING CONSIDERED our decree dated April 15 last, promulgated pursuant to the Royal Decree of March 25, 1905, commanding the issue of the postage stamps of 10 centimes and upwards in new designs:—

"DECREES:—

"3. The new 10 centimes postage stamp shall be issued on June 1 next.

"Brussels, May 22, 1905.
(Signed) "J. LIEBAERT."

Another Ministerial Decree, dated June 27, 1905, fixes July 21 as the date of issue of the new 50 centimes, 1 franc, and 2 francs.

The stamps issued in commemoration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the National Independence were designed by that most talented artist Monsieur Henri Meunier, whose signature they bear.

The seven values composing the issue are all of different design, particularly as regards the frame. They are surface-printed in colour, on white wove paper, and are perforated 14. The Sunday label does not form an integral part of the stamp, as is the case in the 1893 issue. The design of the Sunday label is quite separate from that of the stamps.

Admitting that the seven values were most excellently designed, it is true, nevertheless, that the appearance of the stamps was quite spoilt in the various processes of

reproduction. Neither is the ink particularly good, and, sad to say, numberless copies are to be found in which the design is quite blurred; they bear absolutely no comparison to the well-produced stamps of Great Britain.

The 10 centimes stamp.

The colour of this stamp is *rose*, verging on *vermilion*; 17,404,000 copies were printed, that being the estimated requirements of one year. This value was issued on June 1, 1905, one month after the issue of the 20, 25, and 30 centimes. The delay was due to an accident to one of the plates, which took place at the beginning of printing, about the end of 1904. The lower portion of certain plates—to be exact, the portions on which a row of Sunday labels was engraved—was cracked, and the process of repair was a rather long one. A good many sheets printed from those plates had to be destroyed, and the few that were fit for use were taken into stock, to be issued to the various post offices at the same time as the stamps of the second printing. The actual quantity issued of the *real* first printing was very small, and the figures quoted above (17,404,000) consist almost entirely of the second printing. The shade of the first rare printing varies from *very pale rose* to *pale dull rose*; the letters of the inscription in the Sunday label are formed of very fine strokes, and the stamps are easily distinguishable from other printings.

From 1906 to 1908 there were three printings comprising 348,050,500 stamps, the shades being as follows:—

1906, pale vermilion-rose.

1907, rose.

1908, bright carmine.

As regards varieties, a distinction may be made between copies showing a single button on the epauvette, and those showing two. Defective letters forming the inscription in the Sunday label are also to be found on a few copies.

Reference List.

10 centimes, dull rose, rose, pale rose, vermilion-red, bright carmine.

The 20 centimes stamp.

This stamp was issued on May 1, 1905, and there were two distinct printings, comprising 12,586,000 copies, the shades being as follows:—

1st printing, pale and deep reseda.

2nd " pale and deep olive-yellow.

There are practically no varieties to record, with the exception of those consisting of defective lettering in the Sunday label. This was due to the letters being so close together that the ink spread in blotches from one to another.

(To be continued.)

Topical Notes

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

Elihu Burritt and Ocean Penny Postage

SO much interest has been aroused this year by Ocean Penny Postage that I think many of my readers may be interested in the following correspondence and letters from the late Mr. Elihu Burritt to the editor of the *Liverpool Mercury*.

Some years ago the late Mr. John Lovell, who was then editor of the *Liverpool Mercury*, handed me the following letters with full permission to use them, but I put them on one side and only recently came across them in clearing up some old papers.

The letters were all addressed to the editor of the *Liverpool Mercury*. The first one is as follows:—

“To the Editor of the *Liverpool Mercury*.

“MY DEAR SIR,—I should be grateful if you would admit among your selections the enclosed article—the first of a series I intend to prepare for the public press—upon the subject of an Ocean Penny Postage.

“Truly yours,

“ELIHU BURRITT.

“27 New Broad Street, London,

“January 26, 1847.”

The article referred to appeared in the *Liverpool Mercury* of February 5, 1847, and is as follows:—

“OCEAN PENNY POSTAGE.

“A hundred years ago Edinburgh and London were as far apart, by the measure of time, as Liverpool and Boston now. English coal and iron have laid the bars of nine thousand miles of railway in the New World, and nearly twice as many more in the Old, which, if linked in one continuous track, would girdle the earth at its equator with a race-course for the Iron Horse.

“And the Iron Horse—a word for him of Saxon stock; it matters not where he is stabled or harnessed for his mission, whether to thunder through Siberian wastes with Nicholas' ukase, or from Cairo to Timbuctoo with a message from Ibrahim Pacha, or from Thibet to Calcutta on a commercial errand, he will show his Saxon pedigree and his Saxon groom and rider. Where he goes, there will go the English language and the genius of the English race. From the far still depths of Central Asia he will bring Londonward letters in the English tongue; letters to English churches, and then to English manufacturers and bankers; and then new furnaces and forges will illuminate the hills and clouds of Wales with their midnight glow; and the tall factory chimneys of Lancashire and Yorkshire will thicken to a forest, and labyrinths of busy, bee-winged machinery will be added to the looms and spindles plying now. And the Iron Horse will shake the sombre solitudes of barbarism with his giant tread, and run to and fro, and whistle to strange tribes of men to come out of their dens and caves and forest lairs into the sunlight and sympathy of civilization, and to change their

beast or bird-skin garments for those of fine spun wool and cotton. And at every place where he stops for fuel food, he will drop a Christian missionary and teacher of the English tongue; and returning, will bring in his saddle-bags more letters for Bibles, and for bales of cloth and clothing.

“The propagation of the English race is fast anglicizing the world, and thus centring it around the heart of civilization and commerce. Under the sceptre of England alone, there live, it is said, one hundred and forty millions of human beings embracing all races of men, dwelling between every two degrees of latitude and longitude around the globe. And there is the Anglo-American hemisphere of the English race doubling its population every twenty-five years, and propelling its propagation through the Western World. And there is the English language colonized, not only by Christian missions, but by commerce in every port, on every shore accessible to an English keel. The heathen of China or the Eastern Inde, whilst buying wood for incense to their deities from English or American merchantmen, or trafficking for poisonous drugs; the sable savages that come out of the depths of Africa to barter on the seaboard of their glittering sands their ivory, ostrich feathers, or apes, for articles of English or American manufacture; the Red Indians of North and South America, as they come from their hunting-grounds in the deep wilderness to sell their spoils to American or English fur companies; the swarthy inhabitants of the ocean islands, as they run to the beach to greet the American whale ship or the English East Indiaman, bringing their yams and curious ware to sell to the pale-faced foreigners: all these carry back to their kind and kindred rude lessons in the English language, the meaning of home and household words of the strong old Saxon tongue, each of which links its possessor to the magnetic chain of English civilization.

“What, then, should England do to bring all nations of men within the range of the vital functions of that heart relation which she sustains to the world?

“Answer: Let her establish an *Ocean Penny Postage.*

“ELIHU BURRITT.”

The next letter is written on the special paper that was often used by Mr. Elihu Burritt, and I have therefore had an illustration made, which will be found on the next page.

The last letter I have is as follows:—

“35 BROAD STREET BUILDINGS,

“LONDON,

“June 15, 1853.

“SIR,

“I beg you to notice the facts and arguments contained in the enclosed brief development of the proposition of a Universal Ocean Penny Postage, which the Rt. Hon. T. M. Gibson is to bring before the House of Commons on the 21st.

“Respectfully yours,

“ELIHU BURRITT.”



Fair speed the Ship whose signal is unfurled,
An "OCEAN PENNY POSTAGE" for the world.

London, May 7, 1853

Sir

I beg you to insert the
enclosed short article, which may
tend to show the feasibility of our
Ocean Penny Postage

Yours truly
William Bennett

Post Offices in China.

AN esteemed client in the Far East has been kind enough to send us the following list of the places in China where Union Post Offices are open for exchange of mails. This may be of use to some specialists, so I reproduce it *in toto*.

British.	German.	French.	Japanese.	American.	Russian.
Shanghai	Shanghai	Shanghai	Shanghai	Shanghai	Shanghai (Peking)
Tientsin	(Peking)	Tientsin	(Peking)		Tientsin
Chefoo	Tients'n	Chefoo	Newchwang		Chefoo
Hankow	Chefoo	Chungking	Tientsin		Hankow
Ningpo	Chinan	Hankow	Tangku		
Foochow	Tsintau	Ningpo	Chungking		
Amoy	Ichang	Foochow	Shasi		
Swatow	Hankow	Amoy	Hankow		
Canton	Nank'ng	Chinkiang	Kiungchow		
		Pakhoi	Nanking		
		Amoy	Soochow		
		Lungchow	Hangchow		
		Mengtsz	Foochow		
			Amoy		
			Swatow		
			Canton		

The "Nankivell" Stamps

MESSRS. GLENDINING AND CO. sold the first portion of this fine collection on May 18 and 19 last, and fair prices were realized.

Amongst the stamps that sold well were the China, the following being a few prices :—

		£ s. d.
Aug. 1878.	1 c., yellow-green, block of 12	2 8 0
"	3 c., deep vermilion, sheet of 25	2 0 0
1878.	Thicker paper, 1 c., green, sheet of 20	5 10 0
1897.	8 c. on 6 c., brown (S. G. 73), block of 4	2 8 0
"	½ c. on 3 c., yellow, inverted	2 2 0
Aug. 1897.	£5, yellow-green and rose	3 3 0

Also I note :—

Mauritius, early state, 1d., vermilion, fine horizontal pair, used 25 10 0

I draw special attention to the sale on June 15 and 16 next. This consists of no less than 630 lots, and includes Mr. Nankivell's superb second and reserve collection of Transvaals. The stamps are nearly all in the most brilliant condition, and are to be sold without any reserve. Those who want fine copies of these much-sought-for stamps should not miss this opportunity.

Description of New Stock Books arranged and priced recently*New Zealand.*

OWING to a recent large purchase of the earlier issues of this most popular country,

we decided to remake Vol. I only and combine the fine lot of old stamps in our last purchase with the stock book.

The result is a superb book, and of the first type stamps alone there are 393 unused and 886 used, among those a large number of blocks of four and six unused and used, and quite a lot of rarities such as 1d., brown, wmk. N Z; 1d., red, wmk. N Z, rouletted; 1d., red, perf. on pelure paper; and so on.

The book is one that should be seen by every one interested in the beautiful old stamps issued by Perkins Bacon and Co.

The later issues go down to No. 217 in the Catalogue, and include the London-printed picture stamps.

St. Helena and Heligoland.

This book has just been rearranged. In St. Helena there are some scarce blocks and fine unused; in Heligoland quite a good lot of scarce postmarks, such as "Hamburg" in blue, "Cuxhaven," etc. etc.

Jamaica, Montserrat, Virgin Isles, and Leeward Isles.

In this group the Jamaica are a fair lot, the "Pine" wmk. being well represented. The Virgins are in fine condition, and include a number of fine blocks with full original gum; they are scarce in this condition.

Wurtemberg.

The earliest issues are rather weak; even the used stamps are few in number, and I find great difficulty in keeping up a stock of this country. The later issues are all well represented, and include a fine lot of rare things in unused blocks, etc.

Amsterdam Philatelic Exhibition

FULL REPORT

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

THE leading Stamp Exhibition of the year 1909 is the International one that was held in Amsterdam from June 3 to 10 in the Bellevue Building, on the Leidschekade, the fine open space at the back of the Opera House.

Amongst those present I noticed Mr. and Mrs. Henry Duveen, Mr. E. D. Bacon; Mr. A. J. Warren, Mr. H. Griebert, Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Phillips, Mr. E. O. Phillips, Mr. D. Field, Mr. Harvey Clarke, Mr. Dendy Marshall, Mr. and Mrs. Slade, Mr. Boddy, Mr. F. J. Melville, Mr. Frank Wilson, Mr. Whitfield King, Mr. P. L. Pemberton, Mr. Lamb, Mr. H. F. Johnson; M. A. Coyette, of France; Herr Adolf Passer, R. Friedl, and Lieut. Bayer, of Austria; Baron A. de Reuterskiöld, Mr. Zumstein, of Switzerland; Mr. Henke, Mr. and Miss Kohl, H. Hartmann, Hugo Krötzsch, and Lederer, from Germany; Mr. F. Breitfuss, from Russia; local collectors were represented by the Baron R. Lehmann, and Herren Manus, Beausar, Polman, Wafelbakker, J. A. von Schmid, C. Van Altena, C. J. Stork, M. Z. Booleman, L. Van Kinschot, Van Valkenburg, J. Goossen, P. J. Van Harderwijk, N. Jansen, A. W. Polman, J. B. Robert, Narat Koning, A. C. Voss, P. W. Waller, and many others. About two hundred attended the opening ceremony, which was held in a large saloon on the right hand of the entrance. This and the entrance hall were beautifully decorated with large pots of rhododendrons in full flower, ferns, etc.

Major C. WAFELBAKKER presided, and made the opening speech in Dutch; he welcomed the delegates from many societies and thanked those who had helped to make the Exhibition possible, especially the Postmaster-General of the Netherlands, who had authorized the opening of a post office in the main hall. Major Wafelbakker then said a few words of welcome in English, French, and German, being, like so many of the Dutch gentlemen, a linguist of marked ability.

Baron R. A. LEHMANN in proposing a vote of thanks to the President, made an interesting speech in French, in the course of which he drew attention to the need of a hobby, to the charms of stamp collecting, and expressed his wonder that the world had gone on for so many years without postage stamps for convenience of communications. In conclusion he called for hearty cheers for

Her Majesty the Queen, for Prince Henry, and for the Princess Juliana.

The Exhibition was then declared open.

The Judges who acted were as follows:—Messrs. Breitfuss, Duveen, Elias, Goossen, Van Kinschot, Kloss, Manus, and Baron A. de Reuterskiöld.

I may say at once that with the exception of the stamps of Holland and her Colonies, real rarities and fine stamps were conspicuous by their absence in local exhibits. The gems of the Exhibition were the Mauritius and Tasmania of Mr. Duveen, the Transvaal of Mr. Harvey Clarke, the French of Mr. Reichenheim, the Victoria of Mr. Hausburg, and the Swiss of Mr. Zumstein; no Dutch collectors showed anything in stamps of Foreign Countries to compare with these grand collections.

Naturally the stamps of Holland and Colonies were well represented both by Dutch and English exhibits, and I shall refer to these specially later on.

Considering how many really fine collections there are in Holland, I was certainly disappointed not to see more shown by local collectors, and I am afraid it was only their native modesty that prevented them from sending in their many treasures for competition.

A most interesting "Programme of Fêtes" was drawn up by the Committee appointed for that purpose, and the thanks of all the visitors are specially due to the members, consisting of Baron Lehmann, Jhr. J. A. von Schmid, Major Wafelbakker, and my old friend Mr. L. A. Beausar.

The arrangements made for our pleasure and entertainment were as follows:—

June 3rd.

Banquet at the Bible Hotel, at 6.30 p.m.

June 4th.

Special visit to the "Grand Theatre van Lier," where four or five rows of stalls were reserved for the variety entertainment.

June 5th.

Banquet in the restaurant in the Zoological Gardens.

June 6th.

Reception at the Exhibition from 2 to 4 p.m., and band.

June 7th.

Excursion by steamer to the Island of Marken, and luncheon on board.

June 9th.

Visit to the National Museum, and Zoological Gardens, with lunch at the latter.

The First Official Banquet

was held on the opening day at the Bible Hotel. Baron R. Lehmann presided, and about seventy ladies and gentlemen were present, including most of the visitors and the leading collectors of Holland.

The dinner lasted from 7 to 10.30 p.m., and I think there were no less than seventeen speeches. Owing to lack of space, joined with a very slight linguistic knowledge, I can only give a brief résumé of what took place.

Baron LEHMANN proposed the usual loyal toasts to the Queen, Prince Henry, and Princess Royal.

Mr. L. A. BEAUSAR, Vice-President of the Netherlands Philatelic Society, read a number of telegrams from various societies congratulating the N. P. S. upon celebrating its twenty-fifth anniversary.

Major WAFELBAKKER, President of the Society, spoke in English, and drew attention to the efforts of the Dutch Philatelic Society to teach collectors and help them in all possible ways; he also specially thanked the English for exhibiting and for coming over to the show.

The fine band of the 2nd Infantry Regiment, which played all the evening, then gave "God Save the King."

Major WAFELBAKKER said that all toasts could be divided into three parts, so he gave "The health of all members of the Netherlands Philatelic Society." "The health of the Jury," drawing attention to the difficulty of getting together men with sufficient knowledge and time to give to their arduous duties. "The Visitors and Delegates of Societies."

Dr. PAUL KLOSS replied in German, and in the name of the Dresden Philatelic Society, presented a silver cup to Major Wafelbakker, who, for some fifteen years, has been President of the National Philatelic Society.

Major WAFELBAKKER thanked Dr. Kloss, and the cup was filled and refilled many times.

Mr. ADOLF PASSER, in his speech, conveyed the congratulations of the Vindobona Philatelic Society of Vienna.

Baron R. LEHMANN, who spoke in English, then proposed "The Ladies," stating that where there is joy there must be ladies, and asking where we should all be without them.

Jhr. J. A. von SCHMID responded in French.

Captain C. C. VAN ALTENA, who spoke in German, proposed the memory of the founders of the Society, and drew attention to the fact that only one of the original founders was now with them, Mr. N. Jansen.

Mr. L. A. BEAUSAR proposed the health of those who had worked hard to make the Exhibition a success, and drew special attention to the debt they all owed to their Secretary, Mr. M. Z. Booleman, who had been an indefatigable worker and who had done a great share of the routine work.

Mr. P. J. VAN HARDERWIJK proposed the health of Major Wafelbakker, who had been President of the Netherlands Philatelic Society for fifteen years.

Mr. G. HENKE spoke about the close relations existing between Holland and Germany, and hoped they would continue.

Mr. A. C. VOSS brought forward a proposal to found a Postal Museum based upon that of Berlin.

Mr. G. V. VAN DER SCHOOTH, in an interesting speech full of reminiscences, proposed the health of and long life to "Philately."

Mr. N. JANSEN gave some interesting particulars of the early days of the Society, and recalled the days of twenty-five years ago, when the Society consisted of very few collectors and met in a small room in an out-of-the-way quarter of the town. He also spoke about the founder of the Society, and drank to his memory.

The Baroness von SCHMID, in a few admirably chosen remarks, returned thanks on behalf of the Society.

After a few concluding remarks from the Chairman—Baron LEHMANN—a very enjoyable evening came to a close about 11 p.m.

* * *

The Second Official Banquet

took place in the fine upper restaurant at the Zoological Gardens at 6.30 p.m. on June 5.

Baron R. LEHMANN presided, and there were sixty ladies and gentlemen present.

After the dinner, the list of awards made by the Judges was read out by Dr. P. KLOSS, President of the Jury. The award of a Gold Medal to Mr. Warren was received with loud, prolonged applause, the Dutch collectors recognizing in the most hearty manner the many discoveries made by Mr. Warren.

The CHAIRMAN announced that as a memento of their services and of their visit to Amsterdam, a souvenir would be presented to each member of the Jury.

Major WAFELBAKKER proposed the health of Dr. Kloss, and thanked him for the able manner in which he had carried out his duties as President of the Jury.

Mrs. WAFELBAKKER congratulated every exhibitor who had received an award.

Mr. A. J. WARREN, who made an excellent and humorous speech in Dutch, which was received with frequent applause, stated that Englishmen were often accused of being insular and of not using any language except their own; he would therefore say a few words in their own language. He said that he had a large family at home who often used to laugh at him for collecting stamps, and said that he knew nothing about them; but now that he had been awarded a gold medal at such a great Exhibition, he thought that he would be able to hold his own, and prove to his friends and his family that his work was found to have some merit, and he did not expect to hear stamp collecting run down in future.

Lieut. BAYER thanked the members of the Jury for awarding him a gold medal for his general collection, which, he stated, was entirely arranged by himself, and it had given him great pleasure to study and write up his stamps. In conclusion, he drew special attention to the fact that the Committee consisted almost entirely of military officers who had most kindly given a great deal of time and labour in order to make the Exhibition a success. He drank the health of the members of the Jury, joined with that of the Committee of the Netherlands Philatelic Society. Mr. Bayer spoke alternately in English, French, German, and Dutch, and his speech was received with considerable applause.

Baron LEHMANN then proposed the health of the Jury, and especially joined with this toast the name of Mr. F. Breitfuss, who had come from far-off Russia the same as many years ago the Czar Peter the Great came to Amsterdam to learn to build ships. He concluded by proposing in Russian "Health to Breitfuss."

Dr. PAUL KLOSS briefly replied for the Jury, and drank to the health of the collectors of Amsterdam.

Captain C. C. VON ALTENA, who also spoke in Dutch, German, French, and English, said that in the name of the Dutch collectors he specially thanked the English for coming over to Amsterdam, and hoped that they had made many friends and that they would soon come over again.

Captain G. BUIJS, who spoke in Malay, said that at dinners in the East Indies it was always the custom to drink to the health of friends and relations at home, and he thought that this evening amongst the many toasts given we had forgotten this one, so he gave the toast of "Our Sisters and Brothers in distant lands."

Baron R. LEHMANN then proposed the health of Jhr. J. A. von Schmid and of Herr L. A. Beausar, and said that we were spe-

cially indebted to these gentlemen for the very perfect arrangements for the banquets, excursions, etc.

Mr. H. HARTMANN drank to the health of the Dutch nation, and said that he heard the people of Holland speak of their kingdom as a small one, but in this he thought they were mistaken; no nation which should be called small could have shown the fidelity and enthusiasm which was shown by the Dutch people on that day at the christening of the Princess Juliana, which had just taken place at The Hague.

The CHAIRMAN then gave the health of the Publicity Committee, and especially of the editors of papers who had done so much to make the Exhibition a success, and he hoped that on future occasions they would also continue to help in like manner.

Jhr. J. A. VON SCHMID thanked Mr. Hartmann for his kind remarks about the Dutch nation, and he then said that he specially wished all present to drink the health of one of the Judges—Mr. Henry J. Duveen, of London—who certainly had shown the finest stamps in the Exhibition, but who was so modest and unassuming that he had entered his fine stamps *hors concours*, and for this and for the great help he had given to the Jury he desired all present to drink health and long life to Mr. Duveen.

This toast was most popular, and was received with great acclamation, and regret was expressed that Mr. Duveen had had to return to London and could not reply.

Miss R. KERLER also responded on behalf of the ladies, and stated that when the ladies had anything fine they always desired to show it to the gentlemen.

Captain BUIJS said that he had forgotten what he wanted to say, so he would sit down and think it out again. (Great laughter.)

Mr. L. A. BEAUSAR gave the toast of the health of Mr. H. P. Manus, who had given them considerable help to make the Exhibition possible.

Major C. WAFELBAKKER, in the last speech of the evening, proposed the health of the Chairman—Baron R. A. Lehmann. He drew special attention to the fact that Baron Lehmann had not only given the sum of two hundred and fifty pounds to the expenses of the Exhibition, but that he was constantly doing good deeds for the Dutch nation, and he specially wished to mention that Baron Lehmann had just presented the Red Cross Society with two ambulance motors, each fitted up complete with all apparatus, and each able to carry eight wounded soldiers. In recognition of this valuable present to the nation, Her Majesty the Queen had made Baron Lehmann the third honorary member of the Committee of the Red Cross Society.

This toast was received with great applause, and a most pleasant evening came to a close shortly after midnight.

The following is a list of the chief exhibits, together with the more important awards :—

Championship Class.

Silver Cup given by the late Mr. William Moser—Baron R. A. LEHMANN, for Holland and Colonies.

The Dutch stamps included the following :—

Unused.

- 1852. Superb 5 c., steel-blue.
- 1867. Type I, 15 c. and 20 c.; Type II, 5, 10, 15, and 20 c.
- 1872. Perf. 14, large holes, 5, 12½, and 25 c.
- ," " small " 20 c.

Used.

- 1852. Half of 10 c. on letter used as 5 c., and dated 25.8.55.
- 1867. 20 c. in blue, used, entered as an error, but I consider that this might be one of the colour trials that had passed the post, or a changeling from the 20 c., green.
- 1869. Imperf., used, the set, including the scarce 1 c., black, 1 c., green, and 2 c., yellow.
- 1869. Perf. 10×10½, Type I, 10 c. and 15 c.; Type II, 5, 10, 15, and 20 c.
- 1869. A very fine series of the 5 c., blue, with a complete set of the town number postmarks from No. 1 to No. 138, and under each stamp the name of the town corresponding to the number on the stamp.
- 1872. Dated specimens for each month from 1872 to 1891, this work having been undertaken to show the dates at which different perforations, colours, and papers were in use.
- 1872. Perf. 14, large holes, 20, 25, and 50 c.
- 1872. Perf. 14, small " 5 and 20 c.

The Unpaid Letter stamps of Holland were complete in every known variety with the exception of three or four stamps.

The colonies of Curaçao, Suriname, and the Dutch Indies were practically complete in unused and used, and this collection is not only a great one in size, but it is also one of great philatelic importance. It had one whole room devoted to it, and has been most beautifully arranged and written up by Mr. Narat Koning. The collection was shown in London, but has been much added to and improved since then.

Class I.

Section A.—Holland and Colonies. Unused.

J. J. WERUMÉUS BUNING. Gold Medal.

A fine collection in good condition, including many blocks and strips and almost complete in single stamps; in the Unpaid

Letter stamps about a dozen only were missing.

An interesting novelty is the 1891 5 c., blue, with the word "Nederland" clearly double struck.

Section B.—Holland and Colonies. Used.

P. W. WALLER. Gold Medal.

A very fine collection, well arranged, and beautifully written up in English.

I noted that in the 1867 issue Mr. Waller includes the 50 c., gold, in three types, and shows large photographs of each. He claims that the chief differences between Types II and III are in the top of the "5" and in the shape of the letters "CEN" in "CENTS." I believe that Mr. Stewart-Wilson has described this before, but I am writing in The Hague without my books, and have nothing to refer to.

In 1867 issue, Type I, 10 and 15 c.

In 1867 issue, Type II, 5, 10, 15, and 20 c.

In the 1872 issue, perf. 14, large holes, he shows the 12½, 20, 25, and 50 c. The Unpaid are very fine and include many minor varieties.

In the Dutch Indies he has in 1902 "1" on 2 c., inverted, and a vertical pair with double surcharge, used.

" 2½" on 3, a pair, one with and one without surcharge.

" 2½" on 3, inverted surcharge.

In the Unpaid he has the 1874, 20 c., green on blue, imperf. and used.

Suriname, 1892. The 2½ c., black and orange, the 100 types plated, and a carefully drawn diagram showing the minor varieties by which they can be told.

Section C.—Holland and Colonies.

Used and Unused.

Mr. A. J. WARREN. Gold Medal.

This collection is well known to many of my readers, so I will only briefly draw attention to some of the more important things in it.

Holland. 1852. The order of the colours, as shown by numerous dated copies, which Mr. Warren arranges as follows :—

- 5 c. Feb., 1852, dark blue.
- ," " 1853-4, steel-blue.
- ," " 1855, blue.
- ," " 1856, very deep dark blue.
- ," " 1859, light blue.
- ," End of 1859 to 1861, milky blue with some retouches in the upper corners, and mostly in the left upper corner.
- 5 c. 1863, greenish blue.
- ," 1863, blue, new plate, sharp clear impressions and no retouches.

In the 10 c. of 1852-63 I draw attention to the following interesting varieties:—

In 1860 or early 1861 the first plate was retouched in the upper left corner only.

In 1861 a new plate was put in use, and through a defect in the mother die each stamp on the sheet shows a horn-like projection on the forehead of the King; the earliest date for this variety is August, 1861.

In 1862 this defect was noticed, and Mr. Warren has a block of ten stamps showing traces of attempts to remove the horn. From March, 1863, a new plate was put in use which has no signs of this horn, and it was from this latter plate that the reprints were made.

In the 1864 issue there are some specimens of the 10 c. which show the outer line on the left redrawn.

In the 1872 issue I note in the perf. 14, large holes, 5 c., 20 c., unused and used, 25 c. and 50 c. used.

The Unpaid are very complete and include interesting minor varieties:—

In Curaçao, 1879 issue, perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$, there are 2½ and 25 c. unused, and the 5, 10, 25, and 50 c. used.

Nov., 1895. 2½ c. on 10 c., ultramarine, perf. $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12$, a pair, left stamp with normal surcharge and right-hand stamp with double surcharge. Mr. Warren also shows a pair of these stamps, perf. $13\frac{1}{2}$, and a double surcharge on the same perf., neither of which are catalogued.

The Suriname and Dutch Indies are practically complete, and for new original work I am not at all sure that this is not the finest collection of these countries in the Exhibition.

Mr. D. C. PARAIRA. Silver-gilt Medal.

A fairly large collection, but containing nothing new, and the bulk of the really rare varieties not included.

Mr. LOUIS WEIMAR. Silver-gilt Medal.

A very fine lot of proofs and colour trials of the first issue.

General issues of Holland and Colonies, a fine lot all unused, including some of the rare perforations and types.

The other awards for Dutch stamps, etc., were:—

Silver-gilt Medals to—

Jhr. J. A. von SCHMID.
Captain G. BUIJS.

Silver Medal to—

Mr. A. C. VOSS.

Bronze Medal to—

Mr. W. P. COSTERUS.

Section II.—Special collections of one country.

Mr. F. REICHENHEIM, France.
Large Gold Medal.

This magnificent collection of French stamps has been shown at the last Exhibition in London and at several meetings of Philatelic Societies, and is therefore well known to my readers, so I need only say

that since showing it last Mr. Reichenheim has added considerably to it, especially in the "La Suisse" perforations and in modern issues.

Mr. L. L. R. HAUSBURG, Victoria.
Large Gold Medal.

At the time of the last great London Exhibition I fully described this, and I think I then stated that I considered it the finest philatelic collection shown. I need only say that since then Mr. Hausburg has been able to complete other plates, and he now shows the following unique reconstructed plates of the early issues:—

- 1850. Campbell and Fergusson 1d., red, pink, etc.
- Two plates of 96 stamps, each in panes of 24, and one pane of 24 largely composed of unused.
- 3d., blue, plate of 96, printed $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 mm. apart.
- 3d., indigo, plate of 96, printed 2 to $2\frac{1}{2}$ mm. apart.
- 1854. 6d., yellow, plate of 50, made up of overlapping pairs and strips.
- 6d., orange, a similar plate in singles.
- 1861. 6d., black, two panes of 25.
- 1858. 2s., green, imperf., sheet of 50 stamps.
- 1861. 2s., green, perf., pane of 25, of which no less than 21 are unused, and two panes of 25, all used.
- 1864. 2s., blue on green, sheet of 30 in two panes of 15, all unused, and three sheets of used stamps.

This collection is composed of many pairs and blocks in early issues, unused and used, and contains almost all known varieties of wmk., colour, and perforation.

I consider it the finest specialized collection of one country in the whole Exhibition.

Mr. E. ZUMSTEIN, Switzerland.
Large Gold Medal.

This was a magnificent collection of the finest unused stamps, in singles, pairs, and blocks, from the collection of the late M. Mirabaud.

The collection showed no original work by the exhibitor, but, beyond any doubt, it was one of the gems of the Exhibition, and on its merits would take a very high place in any exhibition.

Amongst the better things, *all unused*, I noted—

Zurich. 4 rp., the 5 types each of horizontal and vertical lines.

Geneva. 5 + 5 c., a fine double pair of this stamp.

Vaud. Block of 8—5 cent.

Basle. Pair of the dove.

Geneva. 5 c., yellow-green, large blocks of the small and large eagle.

The "silk thread" stamps, a superb lot, including many unique blocks.

In used stamps there were a pair of the 4 c. Vaud, a beautiful reconstructed sheet of the Vaud 5 c., and the unique sheet of 100

of the Zurich 6 rp. (many of these unused), also superb remade sheets of Orts-Post and Poste-Locale.

Mr. M. Z. BOOLEMAN, Transvaal. Gold Medal.

A nice collection, considerably improved since I saw it at the Berlin Exhibition. I can only note a few things, such as:—

1872. Thick dense paper, fine roul. 1d., dull rose, unused.

1877. V.R., all caps, fine roulette. 1d., double overprint; used, not catalogued.

Oct. 1877. V.R., upright., 6d., imperf. Inverted.

1879. V.R., small. 1d., red on yellow, wide roulette, unused.

Mr. HARVEY CLARKE, Transvaal. Gold Medal.

This collection is much finer, more complete, and better arranged than the one noted above, and I rather wonder that they should be put on a level. Most of the great rarities are in this fine collection, and it would be much easier to give a list of the missing stamps than of what is contained in it. There are a number of stamps with inverted overprint, the error *Transvral* on the 1d., red on blue, several entire sheets in the older issues, a complete sheet of the 1d. on 6d., black, Queen's Head, and the later issues almost complete in all known varieties.

Mr. H. HARTMANN, Montenegro. Gold Medal.

I wonder very much at this award. I think it is only justified from the fact that the jury had so many medals that they did not know what to do with them. Perhaps the jury were influenced by the last paragraph of the description in the catalogue, which said that the exhibit represented a worth of 100,000 Marks!!! Good gracious! £5000 for Montenegro — when a superb collection can be made by any dealer for a tenth part of that sum, and the catalogue must surely have put 100,000 as a printer's error for 10,000, which would be most liberal.

I am interested in Montenegro, and have written some notes upon the stamps, and, candidly speaking, I do not think much of this collection.

Real rarities, such as all the compound perforations of 10½, with 12 to 13 in the high values, are missing, and, worse than this, I consider that some of the surcharges are more than doubtful.

ADOLF PASSER, Bosnia. Gold Medal.

A beautiful collection, well arranged, well worked out and studied, and worthy of the award it has attained. Mr. Passer has made good discoveries in regard to the different plates of the early issues, and has worked out the perforations in a capital manner.

Colonel F. H. HANCOCK, Cashmere. Silver-gilt Medal.

With all due deference to the jury, I do not think that more than one or two

members knew anything at all about these stamps, as this collection, from the rarity of the stamps, its completeness, and the philatelic knowledge displayed in its arrangement, certainly deserves to be placed above such countries as both Montenegro and Bosnia.

Among the rarities I can only note—

Kashmir. 1866. ½ a., black, some grand specimens.

1866, second series. The twenty types of the ½ a., black, and twelve of the 1 a., black, same issue.

1874. ½ a. and 1 a., emerald-green. The four types of these very rare stamps.

1867. 1 a., blue. Five types complete, etc. etc.

Mr. F. E. WILSON, Belgium. Silver-gilt Medal.

A beautiful collection, very strong both in used and unused stamps, and containing some fine blocks.

Mr. J. R. M. ALBRECHT, Guatemala.

Silver Medal.

A very large collection, containing a great number of panes, sheets, and large blocks.

Mr. W. von POLANSKY, Russia, Finland, etc. Silver Medal.

The Russian a rather good lot, with a great many varieties of obliteration in the old issues. Among the rarities I noted the following with *centres inverted*, all used:—

1875. 10 kop., blue and brown.

1883. 14 kop., rose and blue.

1902. 3 r. 50 k., grey and black.

1905. 25 kop., mauve and green.

Another rare piece is the 1906 5 rouble, perf. 11½, used.

The Finland were a very poor lot, and they contained no rarities.

Mr. H. BENNETT, Sarawak. Silver Medal.

A large and very fine collection. Many colour trials in full sheets, a number of die proofs, and a quantity of colour trials of 1895, which have been used as waste by Perkins Bacon and Co. for experiments in preparing the British South Africa stamps of 1896. I hardly think that such things should come in under Sarawak; they belong (if anywhere out of the w.p.b.) to British South Africa.

The issued stamps are very fine, and include the disputed 1869 3 c. on orange, engraved instead of lithographed.

1871, double sheet of 200 of the 3 c. in two panes of 100 each, and the other issues wonderfully complete in sheets, blocks, and strips. Altogether this collection shows what can be done with a small country when worked up by a man who will master his subject as Mr. Bennett appears to have done.

The other awards in this section were :—
 Mr. J. M. BARTELS, Danish West Indies. Silver Medal.
 Mr. G. J. STORK, Peru. Silver Medal.
 Mr. J. BLANCO, Rio de Oro. Bronze Medal.
 Mr. J. DUVEN, Orange River. Bronze Medal.
 Mr. L. DAAMEN, Uruguay. Bronze Medal.

Section III. For General Collections.

Lieut. E. BAYER. Large Gold Medal.
 This is a general collection of about 22,000 stamps arranged in 43 blank albums. Special attention has been paid to the condition of the stamps, which are all very fine. The collection is made by a real student, and has been most carefully written up with copious interesting notes. It contains a number of uncatalogued varieties, and is specialized in regard to Europe.

I congratulate Lieut. Bayer on obtaining the highest award in his class ; he certainly well deserved it.

Jhr. L. F. TEIXEIRA DE MATTOS. Gold Medal.

This collection is in nineteen volumes and contains about 18,000 stamps. It is a general one, and includes proofs, locals, fiscals, etc. Many fine and rare stamps are included, and the award is well deserved.

Mr. E. BONN, Italian and German States. Silver-gilt Medal.

A grand general collection of these popular groups.

Mr. J. VEERSCHIJM. Silver-gilt Medal for a collection of Wurtemberg, Great Britain, and Spain.

Mr. F. CONSEMÜLLER. Silver-gilt Medal for a collection of Europe in four volumes, containing about 8,000 stamps.

Mr. G. VON HESSLING. Silver-gilt Medal for a general collection of Europe with the German States, used and unused.

Mr. A. HOEVELS. Silver-gilt Medal for a good collection of Portugal and Colonies.

Dr A. H. VAN DER BERG. Silver Medal for a considerable number of countries selected from his general collection.

Mr. L. M. KÖNIG. Silver Medal for a collection of Europe containing about 10,500 stamps.

Mr. M. VAN DER LUGT. Silver Medal for a general collection of about 11,000 stamps.

Mr. A. E. SITSEN. Silver Medal for a collection of Germany and Colonies.

Mr. M. E. UNGER. Silver Medal for a good collection of the German Colonies. Eight bronze medals were also given in this class.

Section IV. Entires and stamps on entires.

Major C. WAFELBAKKER. Gold Medal.

A very large collection of envelopes, registered envelopes, post cards, and stamps on letter ; many rare things were included, such as a set of the pence issue on Ceylon envelopes and a scarce lot of Australians, etc.

Mr. L. DE RAAY. Silver-gilt Medal for a large collection of cards of Orange Free State and Orange River Colony.

Mr. W. P. COSTERUS. Silver-gilt Medal.

Envelopes, cards, etc., of Mexico, Iceland, and Luxemburg ; many rare varieties were included, especially in Mexico.

Mr. G. V. VAN DER SCHOOREN. Silver Medal for Italy, Denmark, Turkey, and Newfoundland.

Mr. M. G. BOOLEMAN. Silver Medal.

A collection of envelopes of the United States.

Section V. For Essays, Proofs, and objects of Philatelic interest which do not come under the other headings.

Mr. M. ALBRECHT. Gold Medal.

This is a very interesting and large collection of Mulready envelopes, proofs, caricatures, etc. etc., and it appeared to be much appreciated by the collectors present.

Mr. A. COYETTE. Silver-gilt Medal.

A remarkably fine collection of the proofs, essays, and colour trials of France, including many rarities.

Consul C. GEORGE. Silver-gilt Medal for a beautiful collection of Essays and Proofs of Portugal and Colonies. This is a most interesting collection, and contains a number of rarities that I have never seen in any collection.

Silver Medals in this group were also given to—

Mr. R. KERLEN.
 Mr. E. BONN.
 Mr. RUDOLF FRIEDL.
 Mr. L. DE RAAY.
 Mr. M. E. UNGER.

Section VI. For collectors under eighteen years of age.

Miss K. NELKE. Silver-gilt Medal.

Section VII. Literature, Albums.

Medals were so over-plentiful that no less than twenty-five were given in this section. Almost everything that was entered had a medal, and I have not the space to repeat this list.

Collections entered, but marked "Not for competition."

Unfortunately, from some points of view, some of the finest collections were entered by members of the jury, and therefore were debarred from competition.

I will just briefly mention these.

Mr. H. J. Duveen, Mauritius.

The "Post Office," 1d., red, on letter, and 2d., blue, unused.

"Post Paid," first state of plate, thick yellowish paper.

A superb block of four in mint state of the 1d., generally considered to be the finest thing in the whole Exhibition.

2d., deep indigo, first state of plate; five unused specimens of these great rarities were shown.

2d., later printing, a beautiful block of four, unused.

Five or six remade plates of the 1d. and 2d. stamps were shown in various states of wear.

2d. "large fillet," two fine unused and a reconstructed plate of the twelve varieties used.

The lithographed 1859 issue, a number unused, including a fine strip of the 1d., red. Later issues perfect in every way.

Mr. H. J. Duveen, Transvaal.

Although I know four or five superb collections of these most interesting stamps, I think this one will be found to be one of the best in existence, as it contains a larger number of the *great rarities* than either the collection of "M. la R." or that of Mr. Worthington, both of which run it very close.

Mr. H. J. Duveen, Tasmania.

An almost complete collection, including remade plate of the first issue 1d., blue, and both plates of the 4d., orange. The only rather weak spot appears in the private perforations of the second type stamps, such as the oblique and pin-perforated, the roulettes, etc.

The perforations and the shades of the later issues are superb.

Mr. H. P. MANUS.

Reconstructed plates of early issues of New South Wales, Tasmania, and Victoria.

In New South Wales, Mr. Manus shows the following "Sydney Views":—

1d., red, 61; 2d., blue, 132; 3d., green, 25; and nearly complete plates of the 1d., 2d., 3d., 6d., and 8d., laureated.

In Tasmania:—

Plates of the 1d., blue, and the two plates of the 4d., orange.

In Victoria:—

Three plates of the 2d., Queen on throne.

General Remarks.

I wish to see from a general view of the whole Exhibition if there is any hint that I can mention that might be a little help in future Exhibitions.

As to the jury, I don't think it was international enough to attract exhibitors from some of the countries. Unfortunately, the judges named for France and Austria did not attend; but I think that if *well-known* men, such as M. Bernichon for France and Dr. Diena for Italy, had been judges we should have seen many more exhibits from those great countries.

Another point that struck me was that to a very great extent the Exhibition was run by military officers—most charming men who worked well and hard, but who lacked the business training that is necessary in affairs of this kind.

The public attendance was scanty in the extreme. There were few advertisements, no distribution of tickets, no flags or banners outside the building to show that an Exhibition was on, and I would recommend the Committee in future to secure a few members of the London and Manchester Junior Philatelic Societies to show them how to get an attendance of thousands of collectors.

Half a dozen stalls for dealers would have added to the funds and to the attraction of the Exhibition.

The light was very bad indeed in parts of the Exhibition; important exhibits like Mr. Harvey Clarke's "Transvaals" could hardly be seen without a special searchlight.

Too much light is certainly bad for stamps, but too little can easily be remedied by judicious artificial means.

In conclusion, I may say that I think the thanks of the stamp fraternity are specially due to two men.

I refer to Mr. Booleman, who has been a most indefatigable Secretary, working hard and long hours for some months, and he has been most ably assisted by his nephew, Mr. S. J. Weening, of Amsterdam, who has, I understand, acted as Assistant Honorary Secretary.

I would, above all, refer to the great assistance rendered by Baron R. Lehmann, Consul-General for Greece in Holland.

Baron Lehmann not only gave a very large sum of money towards the expenses, and thus rendered the Exhibition possible, but he secured some of the finest exhibits that were shown. Finally, at the banquets he presided with marked ability; he made many speeches in several languages, all to the point and well expressed, and in a word he was the right man in the right place, and I trust that in future Exhibitions the Committees will be able to secure men to preside as well as Baron Lehmann has done in Amsterdam.

The Stamp Collector

HE had formed a collection at school, not a very large one, some seven or eight hundred at most, but still big enough for him to take an interest in; and then when he left school the collection, like many others, had been laid aside and forgotten.

On leaving school he went as a clerk to the bank in his native village. He would then be about seventeen. Some three years afterwards he was transferred to one of our larger provincial towns, and amongst his luggage he placed the old stamp collection. Why he did so he could not tell. But it was lonely in his lodgings in the new town, where everybody seemed too busy to take any interest in him, and he took out the old collection of his schooldays to have a look at it. He thought that it might make life less dreary were he to start collecting stamps again, and so have some occupation which would help him to pass agreeably the weary hours in which he was not at the bank. So he rearranged his stamps.

One day, not long after, he happened to mention stamps to a brother clerk.

"Hullo, do you collect stamps?"

"Well, I used to do so, and I'm thinking of beginning again."

"That's right; I'm a collector, but nobody round here seems to collect. I got a fine thing the other day though..." And then ensued a long talk dear to the heart of the philatelist, at the end of which our friend found himself invited to "come round tonight to see them."

So, through stamps, he made his first friend. He admired his collection, and invited him round to see his own poor seven hundred stuck in an old exercise book. But his friend soon remedied all that. He told him of albums quite cheap, but yet by no means bad, of stamp mounts, of catalogues, and of all the accessories to the hobby of Philately. And our beginner listened and marvelled, and picked up many things from his friend, for in those days there were no papers for beginners. Papers for advanced collectors there were in abundance, but these served only to render the possessor of seven hundred ashamed of the paucity of his collection.

Soon after he contracted a disease which affected his spine. It was not a very bad ailment, but it necessitated his keeping in bed for two months and spending another two in an arm-chair by the fireside. During those months his hobby was indispensable, for it took his attention away from the pain which was continually gnawing at him. So

he bought an album—not an expensive one for it cost only a shilling—and a catalogue again a good one, though not so elaborate as Gibbons, and he had spent little more than half a crown in these two transactions. Then he rearranged his stamps according to his catalogue.

This took some time, and when it was done he felt that a blank had come into his life. He missed the old pleasure. So he bought some more stamps, not from approval sheets, but in packets. He found it much cheaper and better to buy packets and sets than to buy from low-priced, not cheap, approval sheets. And as his friends learned of the hobby by which he alleviated the racking pain he suffered, they brought him stamps. Stamps that they had bought for him, stamps that they had begged, stamps that they had torn off old letters, in short, stamps obtained in every conceivable way. But the gift which pleased him most was a box full of envelopes which he received from the manager of a big cloth mill, who promised at the same time to send him some more. All the stamps in that box were modern; they were stamps that could be exchanged. For many collectors cannot get hold of the modern stamps except by buying, and are only too pleased to exchange some of their old stamps for these modern ones. And so our beginner's collection grew during those months, and when he went back to his work in the bank he had quite a nice little general collection, of between two and three thousand. He took pride in showing that collection and was most careful to keep it spick and span. No torn copies, no faded stamps, no labels or fiscal stamps, did he admit. He collected only true postal stamps.

It was about this time that he joined a stamp society. It was not a famous one, nor had it been long in existence. Our beginner did not believe in rushing things; he always bided his time and went cautiously. The members all lived in the town, and twice a month they met at the house of one of their number to discuss stamps. They were all juniors like himself; their biggest collection was a general one of about five thousand varieties, but they were all keen. They did not circulate sheets, they simply exchanged or sold their stamps when they met.

He exchanged many of his duplicates in that society, and the endless talk and exchange of ideas did him good. It enlarged the horizon of his views, and apart from stamps he made a good few friends amongst the members.

It was about this time that he bought his first Gibbons. This step was forced upon him by the fact that the standard Catalogue was used as a basis for all the selling and exchanging of stamps which went on in his new society; nor did he ever regret his purchase. The Gibbons of those days was not the same as the present handsome two-volume Catalogue, but it chronicled thousands of varieties that his cheaper one left unlisted, and thus it showed him the endless possibilities of stamp collecting.

It did another thing. It inculcated a sort of despair into his mind. How could he hope to get nearly all those varieties? It was quite impossible. He had too little money to spend on his hobby to get a tithe of them. But after a time that despair left him. It left him when he came to recognize that nobody attempts to collect all those varieties, that Gibbons chronicles in each country all the varieties known to the specialist of the country, many of which a general collector never sees. So gradually he grew contented again as his collection went on increasing.

After some half-dozen years in this town he was promoted to the head office of his bank in London. It was with very mixed feelings that he said good-bye to his associates at the station. He was sorry to leave them, of course, very sorry; they had been good to him, better friends he would never find, but—and it was a but which outweighed all other considerations—the town to which he was travelling was London; and London held the shops of all the big stamp dealers. Now he would be able to go round and examine the stamps in the shops; for his collection now numbered close on five thousand, and his salary was being raised, so he would be able to buy stamps. Of course, he had long been buying stamps, but only sets, and from the approval sheets of recognized firms, and he had for some time realized that the value of stamps he bought in this fashion would not rise very much. Yes, he was rapidly becoming a hard-headed collector. He still loved his hobby for its own sake, but he was always looking out for a bargain or a stamp that would rise.

So he came to London with one or two letters of introduction from his old stamp friends to collectors in the great metropolis. After he had settled down comfortably in his lodgings, he sought out these collectors, and found it marvellously easy to make friends of them. Their common hobby was a lubricant for the wheels of the machinery which makes friends. But it was not easy for him to find a suitable stamp society of which to become a member. It was a curious fact that they all seemed too advanced. However, at last he got in touch with a number of collectors of the same status as himself, and he banded

them all together and formed a society. He was a persevering young man, this collector.

And then he commenced to visit the dealers' shops. He did not make many purchases. His salary was not big enough for that, and he limited himself strictly to those stamps which he wanted. Still, the continuous perusal of dealers' stock books taught him what stamps there were and what was their value. Not only so, but the dealers got to know him. They recognized that he was a beginner, and keen; so they were inclined to help him. The dealers had a sort of friendly feeling for him; they remembered the days when they themselves were beginning, and they helped him a lot. They did not offer him 2d. blue Mauritius, or all the minute varieties of the Orange River Colony. They offered him good old Europeans, which did not cost much, because just then nobody wanted them. But our young collector had the sense to see that some day people would want them, and he took them. He did not take every one that was offered him. He took his time and chose only picked specimens. Sometimes they cost a little more, but he felt that they were worth the extra cost.

He also got some foreign correspondents. By so doing he early obtained specimens of new issues, and these he could exchange here with collectors who had no correspondent for any stamps he might wish. He also found that many stamps which are rather hard to get in England in good condition are fairly common in some foreign countries.

And so with his correspondents, his society, and his personal friends he trudged along until one morning he found himself possessed of a very nice general collection of about twelve thousand varieties, and fairly strong in Europeans; then he thought he would stop general collecting and specialize in Europeans. But here we must leave him. The specialist is a great man whose ways must not be divulged.

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New Issues and Discoveries

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once, desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Go'd Coast.—We have seen a number of used copies of the 2d., slate, to which we referred in our issue of May 29; they are mostly dated March 25.



7

MARCH, 1909. Type 7. Wmk. Multiple Crown C A, Type w. 8. Perf. 14.
66| 2d., greyish slate, O.

Orange River Colony.—A correspondent has shown us the 1s. on multiple, unsurfaced paper.



38

1909. Type 38. Centre in first colour. Wmk. Multiple Crown C A, Type w. 8. Perf. 14.
223| 1s., scarlet and bistre, O.

Russia.—We have received two more values of the new set.



19



8

MAY, 1909. With thunderbolts. On 25 c., eagle embossed in white, and centre in first colour. Wove paper with intersecting varnish lines diagonally on the surface. No wmk. Perf. 14, 14½.

Type

19| 10 k., blue.

8| 25 k., mauve and grey-green.

Russian P.O.'s in the Turkish Empire.—A correspondent in Constantinople has forwarded us a supply of a newly issued set of stamps commemorative of the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the Russian Post Offices in the Levant.

The issue consists of nine different values very similar to the ordinary stamps of Russia, but with a small steamboat in the centre instead of an eagle. They are all on the new wove paper, with intersecting varnish lines diagonally on the surface, and are without watermark.

All the stamps are surcharged with equivalent values in Turkish currency, and we learn on good authority that only a small quantity have been issued.



T 4



T 5



T 6



T 7

MAY, 1909. Ship embossed in white on 5 pi. to 70 piastres. Centres in first colour (also portions of frame on 35 pi. and 70 pi.). Equivalent values in Turkish currency overprinted in black. Wove paper, with intersecting varnish lines diagonally on surface. No wmk. Perf. 14, 14½ (10 pi. to 70 pi. perf. 13).

17	T 4	5 par. on 1 k., orange.
18	"	10 par. on 2 k., green.
19	"	20 par. on 4 k., carmine.
20	"	1 piast. on 10 k., blue.
21	T 5	5 piast. on 50 k., green and purple.
22	"	7 piast. on 70 k., orange-yellow and chocolate.
23	T 6	10 piast. on 1 r., reddish orange and deep brown.
24	T 7	35 piast. on 3 r. 50 k., sea-green and marone.
25	"	70 piast. on 7 r., pink and myrtle.

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VOL. IX.

The Postal Issues of Denmark and the Danish Colonies

By L. HANCIAU

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Danish West Indies—continued

§ 11.

THE post-department is responsible for the delivery of letters and packages without diminution of weight and with undamaged packing and seal, to the person to whom they are addressed.

Damages for deficiencies, that may be imputed to the post-department, shall be paid according to the value stated by the sender, or if no value has been stated, at the rate of 50 cents pr. pound, or \$5 per cubic-foot, unless it is proved that the value in reality is less.

Only when coin and paper money, transmitted in envelopes, have been previously counted and sealed at the post-office, the post-department shall be responsible for the contents.

For "recommended" letters that have been lost, a damage of \$5 shall be paid.

Responsibility ceases :

- a, When the receiver has given his receipt for the acceptance ;
- b, When the damages are not claimed, from the islands within 3 months, from foreign places within 9 months, after the letter or package has been delivered in.

The post-department shall not pay damages for loose letters, packets or packages, that have only been charged at the rate of postage for letters.

§ 12.

1) Coin, Royal paper-money, or other notes payable to the bearer, and letters, packets or packages, whose value has been marked on their outside, shall be transmitted only by the heavy (package) mail.

With regard to the payment and receipt through the post-offices of smaller amounts, by so called post-checks and post-advances, without any cash-transmission, the regulations made in this respect by the post-administration, are to be followed.

2) Letters and packets not above 32 Lod, whose value has not been marked on their outside, shall be received for transmission by all the mails, by the light (letter) mails, however, only in form of a letter in cross-bands or other light packing not exceeding one sheet of writing-paper.

3) When articles delivered in for transmission without any mark of value on their outside are not requested to be forwarded by a particular mail, such of those articles as letters and packets and likewise written or printed papers and prints filled up by writing not exceeding the weight of 8 Lod each parcel, will be transmitted by the light letter mail, but other things will be sent by the heavy mail.

4) Powder, aquafortis (nitric acid), sulphuric acid, muriatic acid and other corroding acids, lucifer matches and other matters, whose transmission is connected with danger, unsavory things and parcels, which are so bulky and heavy that they cannot conveniently be transmitted, are excluded from transmission by the mail.

5) Agreeable to the regulations sub No. 1, 2 and 3, the post-department is bound to transmit by the mails all such matters, which according to § 15 can be numbered under its privileges. The post-administration shall decide whether the size of a package will allow its transmission or not.

6) All letters, packets, and packages shall, unless otherwise directed on their outside, be transmitted by the first mail to which they belong.

§ 13.

With regard to transmissions by post in Danish vessels, between the mother-country and the Danish West India Possessions, the following rules shall be observed :—

a, For transmission by the light (letter) mail is to be paid the treble of the common, either Danish or West India postage, that is fixed for the place, where the payment is made (cash or by post-stamps).

b, For transmissions by the heavy (package) mail, a fundamental postage shall be paid of 4 cents or 6 skilling K.M., and value-postage, according to the rules prescribed at the place, where the payment is made ; the weight- or volume-postage consists of a sea-postage to be fixed by the post-administration, combined with the Danish and the West India weight- or volume-postage, that is fixed for those routes in the mother-country and in the West India possessions, on which the transmission must be made, in order to reach the place of destination.

With respect to transmission of money, as well as of gold and silver in bars, it is left to the post-department to decide, whether and on what conditions such transmissions between the islands and the mother-country may be made per post.

Otherwise the general rules for transmissions by post shall be applied, subject to the change that results from the above regulations, viz: that where things belonging to the heavy (package) mail, are rated according to the postage of letters, the postage fixed sub a shall be employed.

§ 14.

For letters from and to the Danish West India possessions to and from foreign places, the general West India postage shall be paid, unless exemptions are made by conventions or agreements with foreign post-administrations.

§ 15.

The privilege of the post-department with regard to transmissions, is defined as follows:—

1) The articles whose conveyance and delivery is reserved for the post-department, as far as the post-district, with pertaining harbors and roads, extends, are:—

a, Sealed letters and written or partly printed and partly written matters, of every description and weight.

b; Coin and paper-money payable to the bearer, in sealed envelops, in case the post-department undertakes such transmission. Foreign letters shall on their arrival immediately be delivered for conveyance by post, at the nearest post-office or custom-house. This rule shall however not be applicable to vessels, conveying mails from and to other post-territories, if on their passage they only touch a Danish West India harbor, without unshipping the mails or shipping them in other vessels. It shall likewise be left to the government, according to circumstances, to make exceptions from the rule.

2) The abovementioned articles may, without interference of the post-department, be sent from one place to another in the post-district in the following cases:—

a, When conveyed by the sender's own messenger.
b, When they do not pass through 2 or more places, where royal post-offices are established for their conveyance, nor are sent from a Danish to a foreign post-station mutually connected.

c, When the articles mentioned above are despatched on other days than those on which the mail starts.

§ 16.

Letters may be sent from one Danish West India harbor to another by such vessels that do not convey the royal mails or run as packets; it is however to be observed that on the arrival of the vessel at the place of destination or at the harbor where it has been compelled to seek shelter, the letters shall immediately be delivered to the royal post-office at the place, or if no such be established there, to the custom-house department, or the nearest local magistrate, who shall send them to the nearest post-office. Such transmissions shall be rated according to the general postage for letters. The master of the vessel is

not allowed to cause the letters to be delivered in any other way than through the post-department.

§ 17.

1) It is a duty incumbent on all Danish vessels, at the request of the post-department, to convey the royal mails from the starting-place to the harbor for which they are cleared.

Such request being made, either in a special instance, or by public advertisement to vessels in general, the master of the vessel shall in proper time report to the post-office the day and the hour he intends to start. With regard to voyages between the mother-country and the Danish West India possessions such report shall be made at least 7 days, and with regard to the passage between the islands, at least 6 hours, previous to the departure of the vessel, unless it is proved to the post-office that peculiar circumstances compel the vessel to leave prematurely. The custom-house and harbor-department shall co-operate with the post-department to the effect, that the above-mentioned report is made, and that the vessel does not leave before the time fixed, unless the mail has been carried on board, accompanied by two corresponding notes of parcels, of which the one shall be returned to the post-department supplied with the receipt of the master of the vessel, who keeps the other for himself.

For the information of the customhouse-department at the place of arrival, it shall be entered in the clearance, that the vessel carries the royal mail, and the post-office of the place shall give a receipt on the note of parcels for the delivery of the mail, which receipt shall be produced on entering the vessel at the custom-house.

In the Danish West India possessions the master of the vessel shall, as hitherto, report himself to the post-office half an hour before sailing, and receive the letter-mails.

It is a duty incumbent on the master of the vessel, during the passage to keep the mail, confided to his care, in the safest and best guarded place in the vessel, especially to put the light (letter) mail in his own cabin and in case of any accident to take particular care of it.

In case the master of the vessel should be compelled to seek another harbor, than the one to which he is bound, he shall report at the post-office of the place—or in want of such office—to the customhouse-department, that he has the mail on board; it shall then according to circumstances be decided whether the mail is to be conveyed further in another way, or not. If it is in a foreign country, he shall report himself to the nearest Danish consulate that shall cause the needful to be done with regard to the further conveyance of the mail.

On arriving at the place of destination, the master as soon as the vessel has come to anchor, shall immediately deliver the light (letter) mail at the post-office, and the rest of the mail as soon as circumstances will allow.

2) Sailing vessels and steamers intending to run as packets from any harbor within the post-district, shall in proper time, at the latest simultaneously with the first public advertisement thereof, make a report to the post-administration, as well of their route in general, and of the places

where they intend to stop, as of the hours of starting and arrival, and likewise of all such changes that subsequently may take place in the original arrangement; and they are bound to receive, and in accordance with the above regulations, to keep and deliver the royal mails at the different stopping-places.

The post-department has a right, at a convenient and accessible place in the vessel, to place locked boxes, for deposit of letters; these boxes, together with the mail, to be exchanged at the different stopping-places.

§ 18.

1) The obligation resting on Danish vessels, according to the regulation of the 1st of November 1781 § 7, viz: without any remuneration to convey the West India mail, between the mother-country and the Danish West India islands, and between the islands, shall remain unchanged.

To foreign masters of vessels conveying the West India light (letter) mail, or carrying letters to the Danish West India possessions, shall be paid 1 Cent pr. Lod of the combined weight of the letters to or from places in America, and the double amount of letters to or from any other part of the world. This rule is however not applicable if the mail or letters are carried for a foreign post-administration or if otherwise fixed by conventions.

Danish vessels conveying West India letters to or from foreign places are to be paid at the same rate.

Letters deposited in the letter boxes, mentioned sub. § 17 No. 2, are not included herein, unless they are supplied with post-stamps.

2) For all parcels, pertaining to the heavy (package) mail, shall be paid to the owner or the master of the vessel concerned, the weight- or volume-postage for the sea-transport on the articles transmitted, applied to the total weight or volume of the same.

The master of the vessel shall not be bound to keep more room than 25 cubic feet vacant for the reception of heavy (package) mail articles.

Post-boxes and post-bags shall be conveyed without any charge of freight.

§ 19.

All special regulations that are considered necessary or advisable with regard to post-transmissions, shall be made by the administration of the post-department, viz: for the transmission between the mother-country and the Danish West India possessions, by the administration in the mother-country, and for the post-department in the Danish West India possessions, by the Government. Such regulations shall be made publicly known, if according to their nature it is considered suitable.

§ 20.

Acts infringing the monopoly of the post-establishment shall be punished with fine of \$2 for a single letter, and for letters of greater weight and other articles, with a fine of 50 times the amount of the postage; the legal postage to be paid besides. The cases are to be prosecuted by the police court; and the fines accrue to the poor-fund at the same place.

§ 21.

This ordinance shall take effect 4 months from date. From the same time all previous and contrary regulations, especially the postage-tariffs hitherto followed, are abolished.

To which all concerned have to conform.

Given at Skodsborg the 10th July 1855.

Under Our Royal Hand and Seal.

FREDERIK R.

A. ADHESIVE STAMPS.

Issue of November 10th, 1855.

Emblems of Royalty, crossed sceptre and sword, surmounted by a royal crown, and surrounded by a wreath of oak leaves; within a square frame, inscribed "POST" at top = value "3 CENTS" * at foot, "K G L" (= Kongeligt) at left, and "F.R.M." (= Freimärke) at right. The spaces between the frame and the wreath have a dotted ground, and in the corners of the frame are posthorns, set in divers directions.



Size:—19 to 19½ mm. square.

The die was engraved on steel by A. Buntzen, and the stamps were printed (as were all the following issues) at the Royal Printing House at Copenhagen, on white paper, covered in this case with a yellowish burlé pattern, and having as watermark a Small Crown (shown in the second illustration above).

The sheets contained one hundred stamps, in ten rows of ten; they were watermarked in the margins "KGL. POST-FRMK" along each of the four sides, and had a crown at each of the upper corners and a posthorn at each of the lower. They were at first delivered ungummed, and the earlier supplies were gummed in the colony before being put on sale.

(a) Brown gum (supplied by F. Benzon at St. Croix).

3 cents, deep carmine.

1860. (b) Dark yellow gum (supplied by Rüse at St. Croix).

3 cents, carmine, deep carmine.

1867. (c) White gum (applied at Copenhagen).

3 cents, carmine-rose (deep, pale).

Variety, rouletted (unofficially).

3 cents, carmine-rose.

* 100 cents = 1 dollar = 4s. 2d.

Issue of May, 1872.*

Similar to the stamps of 1867, but perf. $\frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2}$.

3 cents, carmine (deep, bright).

Variety, on very thick white paper, perf. $\frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2}$.
3 cents, carmine.

One might suppose that the die of these stamps was the same as that used for the stamps of Denmark, 1853-64, but it is nothing of the sort. It was a fresh die, as examination will easily prove.

Secret Marks. As in the Danish stamps, there are secret marks here also. First of all, on the die, the initial "B" of the engraver, Buntzen, in the wreath of oak leaves, just opposite the space between the caduceus and the letter "M" of "FR.M." at right. Also, a figure "3", not always well formed, above the posthorn in the left lower corner, and a letter "C" always in the same position in the opposite corner. These figures were engraved on the plate; they vary, therefore, both in shape and in their position, which is not identically the same for all.

Essays. I am told of one without the figure denoting the value in the label at foot, but with figures "3" in the lower corners; said to have been printed in "all colours."†

An ordinance dated 30th August, 1861, authorized a reduction in the price on purchases of twenty stamps at a time, a reduction which had not hitherto been allowed on purchases of less than a hundred stamps. The ordinance runs as follows:—

"Ordinance containing certain modifications of the Ordinance of the 10th July, 1855, extending the Law relating to postal despatches of the 11th March, 1851, to the possessions in the West Indies."

"SKODSBORG, August 30, 1861.

"WE FREDERIC VII, by the Grace of God King of Denmark, the Vandals and the Goths, Duke of Sleswick, Holstein, Stormarn, Ditmarsh, Lauenborg, and Oldenborg,

"Make known:—Having had laid before us by Our Minister of Finance the draft proposed by the Colonial Council of our possessions in the West Indies, with a view to an ordinance containing certain modifications of the ordinance of the 10th July, 1855, on the subject of the extension to the said possessions of the Law relating to postal despatches of the 11th March, 1851. We have been pleased to ordain as follows:—

"§ 1. The reduction in the price of the stamps of the West Indies allowed under the ordinance

* Mr. Koefoed's book says *January*, but this may mean the date at which the stamps were ordered or printed.—ED. G. S. W.

† In Mr. Koefoed's book, at page 137, is an illustration of the die of this stamp, without the numeral in the label, and with a microscopic figure "3" in the left lower corner and a similar letter "c" in the right, as described under the issued stamps. Possibly the *essays* referred to, which M. Hancian had not seen, were proofs from this die. The tiny figure may have failed in the reproductions for the plate, and have been re-engraved by hand on each cliché.—ED. G. S. W.

of the 10th July, 1855, paragraph 2, when copies are purchased, should be allowed in full on all purchases of 20 copies at a time, so that the charge for them will be 55 cents for the

"§ 2. The general rate to the West Indies established by the ordinance of the 10th July, 1855, paragraph 14, for letters from and to Danish possessions in the West Indies, addressed to and coming from foreign countries, so far as this instruction may not be contrary to the postal convention, will be established in full at double the ordinary letter rate (8 cents) for letters of a weight of more than 2 lod, provided that they are despatched from post offices in Danish possessions in the West Indies.

"The subsidy granted under the same ordinance, paragraph 18, to the captains of ships which take letters or bring them to the Danish West Indies, provided that they do not carry mails at the charge of a foreign government, that it is not otherwise arranged under postal convention, will be in future at the rate of 1 cent for each letter the postage of which is received by the post office in the West Indies, with regard to the weight of the letter or to the foreign country from or to which the letters are despatched.

"§ 3. For the newspapers published in Danish West Indies, provided that they are despatched from the West Indian Islands or towns in St. Croix, and that the despatch or distribution (but not the delivery or the wrapping), and the payment of the subscription made through the Post Office Department, shall only be charged for postage 5 per cent of the price of subscription, which the publisher must pay at the commencement of each quarter.

"§ 4. Newspapers and reviews in wrapped single or crossed, bearing no other writing than the address, the name of the addressee, the destination and the date, are despatched through the post between the Danish West Indian Islands and the towns in St. Croix at the following rates:—

"Up to 16 lod, as a single rate letter (1 stamp).

"Above 16,, up to 32 lod, as a double letter (2 stamps).

"§ 5. The charge for delivery, under § 6 of the ordinance of the 10th July, 1855, for postal packages with an accompanying letter, may be paid in advance by the sender, together with the postage.

"§ 6. For postal packages with an accompanying letter, which, under § 3, B 5, of the ordinance of the 10th July, 1855, do not correspond with any of the fixed charges relative to weight or size, the charge established by paragraph 1 of the ordinance will be trebled.

"To which all concerned have to conform.

"Given at Skodsborg the 30th August, 1861.

"Under Our Royal Hand and Seal.

"FREDERIK R."

The employment of the stamps, which were at first exclusively restricted to correspondence within the islands or addressed to Denmark, was extended, from January 1871, to correspondence with other countries.

(To be continued.)

A History of the Post Office and the Stamps of Malta

By LIEUT. W. R. GATT, Royal Malta Artillery

(Continued from page 367.)

POSTAL STATIONERY.

THE articles of stationery, such as Post Cards, Wrappers, and Envelopes, used between 1870 and 1885, were the English ones then current. The following is a complete list of all the Malta Postal Stationery issued since 1885, when the Malta Post Office passed to Local control:—

I. Post Cards.

- 1885, Queen's Head, 1d., rose on *buff*.
- Id. + Id.
- 1901, Queen's Head, ½d., green on *buff*.
- ½d. + ½d.
- 1903, King's Head, 1d., rose on *buff*.
- Id. + Id.

In all cases the 1d. post card measures 140 x 89 mm., and the ½d., 121½ x 75 mm. Post cards shown as ½d. + ½d., or 1d. + 1d., have a reply card attached to the ordinary post card, with rouletting on the crease.

II. Wrappers.

- 1885, Queen's Head, ½d., green on *buff*.
- July, 1902, King's Head, ½d. "

Both wrappers measure 289 x 125 mm., and have the usual five lines of instructions.

III. Envelopes.

(a) Registration.

- 1885. Queen's Head. Rounded flap, supplied by McCorquodale and Co.
- 2d., indigo (G size).
- 2d. (H).

With tongue-shaped flap, supplied by De La Rue and Co.

- 1895. 2d., indigo (G size).
- 1900. 2d. (H).
- Nov. 6, 1902. King's Head.
- 2d., blue (G size).
- 2d. (H).

The following are the sizes of the Registration envelopes:—

Size G measures 6 x 3¹/₂ inches.
 H , 8 x 5 ,

(b) Ordinary correspondence envelopes, embossed with a penny stamp bearing the effigy of the late Queen Victoria, were issued on the 1st May, 1900.

- 1d., carmine on thick white laid (size A).
- 1d. " thin toned wove (C).
- 1d. " thin toned wove (F).

The three sizes are:—

A. Note	4 ³ / ₄ x 3 ¹ / ₂	inches.
C. Commercial small,	5 ¹ / ₂ x 3	"
F. , large,	6 ¹ / ₂ x 4 ¹ / ₂	"

Notwithstanding that these envelopes are of the greatest utility, and are well worth the extra farthing, or extra penny, charged for one, or a dozen, envelopes respectively, for the actual cost of the paper of which the envelope is made, the issue was a complete failure. The greater the number of envelopes bought, the smaller the fraction of a penny charged; but the public did not realize their usefulness and cheapness.

In 1904, in order to exhaust the remaining stock, they were sold at face value (even now the sale is slow), in accordance with the following Government Notice:—

" GOVERNMENT NOTICE.

" No. 209.

" With reference to Government Notice No. 92, dated 28th April, 1900, it is hereby notified that the postage envelopes having a penny embossed stamp, will from the 1st prox. be sold at face value, whether bought singly or in packets.

" By Command,

(sd.) " F. C. FULLER,

" Acting Lieutenant Governor and

" Chief Secretary to Government.

" The Palace, Valletta,

" August 26th, 1904."

The following Postal Notice authorized the use, as adhesives, of stamps cut from Envelopes, Post Cards, and Wrappers:—

" It is hereby notified that on and after the 10th instant embossed or impressed postage stamps, whether of the current or previous issues, cut out of envelopes, post cards, or newspaper wrappers, may be used as adhesive stamps in payment of both local and foreign postage on any packet posted in this Island, provided that they are not imperfect, mutilated, or defaced in any way.

" Medallions cut out of a registered letter envelope, and representing the registration fee of two pence, may be used on any registered packet, but not on ordinary packets.

" By Command,

(sd.) " E. M. MEREWETHER,

" Lieut. Governor &

" Chief Sec. to Govt.

" The Palace, Valletta,

" October 5, 1906."

The following must therefore be chronicled:—

- 1885 ½d., green on *buff*, cut from wrapper.
- 1d., rose on *buff* " post card.
- 2d., blue " registration envelope.

1899	½d., green on <i>buff</i> , cut from post card.
1900	1d., rose , envelope, , thick paper.
	1d., rose , envelope, , thin paper.
1902-3	1d., rose on <i>buff</i> , post card. 2d., blue , registration envelope.

REVENUE STAMPS.

Issue of August, 1899.

In August, 1899, five values of the postage stamps of 1885 were issued for fiscal use, having been surcharged with the word "Revenue," in *black*, at the Government Printing Office. The word is in ordinary type, with initial capital, and measures about 17 mm. in length.

½d., green.
1d., rose.
4d., brown.
1s., violet.
5s., rose.

The ½d., 1d., 4d., and 1s. exist with double overprint, apparently due to slipping of the sheets in the press.

* * *

Issue of 1901.

In 1901, a set was obtained from London, consisting of the above values and others of the various postal types, surcharged variably, in *black*.

(a) With "REVENUE" in *sans-serif* capitals, the word measuring $15\frac{1}{2} \times 3$ mm.

½d., green.
1d., rose.
2d., grey.
4d., brown.
1s., violet.

(b) With "REVENUE" in thicker *sans-serif* capitals, set closer together, measuring 15×3 mm., new value in figures, and a bar cancelling the original value.

3d. on 1s., magenta.
6d. on 1s., olive.
6d. on 1s., orange.

The 1s. stamp being printed in various colours for the purpose.

(c) With "REVENUE" in thick, short *sans-serif* letters, $22 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$ mm., new value in figures, thus "2/-," and a bar cancelling the original value.

2s. on 2s. 6d., orange.

(d) With "REVENUE" in large *sans-serif* capitals, 20×4 mm.

2s. 6d., greenish grey.
5s., rose.
10s., deep blue.

* * *

Issue of 1902(?) - 7.

At later dates various values of the King's Head stamps, with single and with multiple

watermark; also the 2s. 6d., in *orange*, with multiple watermark, have been issued with the same overprints.

(i.) *Single watermark.*

1d., black and carmine (a).

(ii.) *Multiple watermark.*

1d., black and carmine (a).

3d., carmine (a).

6d. on 1s., grey and mauve (b).

2s. on 2s. 6d., orange (c).

FISCAL POSTALS.

No Revenue stamps have ever been authorized to pay postage on correspondence, but a few, particularly ½d. and 1d. values, with both local and London overprints, may be found postally cancelled. These have not been postmarked by a accommodating officials, as is the case with some of the British Colonies, but, having been erroneously used on letters, escaped the notice of the obliterator, whilst hard work.

* * *

The following is a rather interesting Government notice of early date, which I add too late for insertion in the first part of this paper:—

"GOVERNMENT NOTICE.

"The Tariff of Postage for the Island Post Office, as at present fixed, will cease on the 25 inst., from which period the amended tariff, published underneath, will be acted upon.

"Tariff of the Postage to be levied by the Government on all letters received at and forwarded from the Island Post Office in Malta.

Outward and Inward.	Scudi.	Tari.	Grain.
Single letters	0	2	
All other letters under one ounce	0	3	
One ounce and under two ounces	0	0	
Two ounces	1	0	
Above two ounces, six tarì per ounce or any part thereof			
If fumigated in the Quarantine Office.	Scudi.	Tari.	Grain.
Single letters	0	2	10
All other letters under one ounce	0	4	10
One ounce and under two ounces	0	9	0
Two ounces	1	6	0
Above two ounces, eight tarì per ounce or any part thereof			

PALACE, VALLETTA, May 20, 1819.

By Command of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor,

(Sd.) RICHARD PLASKET,

Chief Secretary to Government.

POSTMARKS.

There have been no reprints as yet of the stamps of Malta, but the obliteration marks afford us assistance in detecting anything "unusual" in a stamp in our days of advanced Philately. Consequently nowadays we must not ignore any side line of this science, if we want to improve our knowledge of the difference between originals and others.

The first Maltese postmark which I can record, although it never cancelled any stamps, has been seen on a letter sheet dated 1st January, 1809. It is impressed in black ink, and consists of two parallel curved lines, joined at the ends, and enclosing the word "MALTA" in capitals.

Another important postmark, whose earliest date is 7th October, 1837, is found on letter sheets arriving from abroad. This consists only of the day and month and the amount of postage to be levied from the addressee, as shown in Fig. 1. The year is absent

11 Nov: 5d

Fig. 1.

altogether, but happily the sender seems to have foreseen this, as he was always very particular in completely dating his letters.

Fig. 2 shows a postmark whose earliest date is 8th May, 1853, with a diameter of $30\frac{1}{4}$ mm. This date-mark was struck either in red or in black, and is always found at the back of each letter, but never on the stamp.



Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.

Fig. 3 is a smaller mark, diameter 25 mm., the earliest known date of which is that shown in the illustration, April 12, 1883.



Fig. 4.



Fig. 5.

Figs. 4 and 5 show two varieties of the obliteration mark with a large letter "M." The former, with the letter measuring $7\frac{1}{2} \times 9\frac{1}{2}$ mm., was used from 1857 to 1860; the latter, with letter measuring $6\frac{1}{2} \times 9\frac{1}{2}$ mm., was used from 1858 to 1860. They are usually found upon English stamps, but have also been seen upon a few of the $\frac{1}{2}d.$, yellow, on bluish paper. They were discontinued after the end of 1860. They were always struck in black.



Fig. 6.

The small single-circle date-stamp, diameter 20 mm., and this obliterating mark are usually found together; but the earliest known copy of the former is dated Aug. 19, 1858, whilst the latter is not known earlier than Feb. 16, 1859.



Fig. 7.

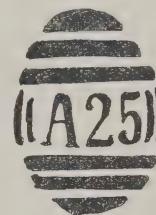


Fig. 8.

Figs. 7 and 8 are used together, in like manner, as date and obliterating marks. The earliest that has been found in this date stamp is March 23, 1875. All the village post offices now have a date stamp similar to this; those of the principal towns have the word "MALTA" below.



Fig. 9.



Fig. 10.

The postmark shown in Fig. 9 was introduced in the Valletta post office on September 13, 1897. That for the town of Sliema (Fig. 10) is somewhat similar, but has "SLEIMA B.O." substituted for "VALLETTA (C.O.)." The time of stamping the letter is also shown in a line above the date.



Fig. 11.



Fig. 12.

Fig. 11 superseded Fig. 9 and has since been replaced in turn by Fig. 12, which is the very latest thing in date stamps, having first appeared on March 2, 1909.



Fig. 13.



Fig. 14.

Figs. 13 and 14 are the old marks used upon Registered letters, and are sometimes found struck upon the stamps. Figs. 16 and 17 show the labels now employed, Fig. 16 in the Valletta office, and Fig. 17 (with different names) in the branch offices.



Fig. 16.



Fig. 17.



Fig. 19.

Fig. 19 is an obliteration mark used for the stamps upon Registered letters.

Fig. 20 is another postmark, used upon Registered letters about 1895-8, and is sometimes found upon the stamps.



Fig. 20.



Fig. 21.

All official Civil Government letters for local destination are allowed to pass free; and are stamped with the official mark shown in Fig. 21.

Every branch of the Post Office, such as Returned Letter, Money Order, Delivery,

etc., has its own date stamp, as shown in Figs. 22, 23, and 24.



Fig. 22.



Fig. 23.



Fig. 24.

POSTMASTERS OF MALTA.

	Date of Appoint- ment.	Date of Retirement.	Title.
Dr. Dom. Montanaro .....	... 1.1.1817	...	
Robert Macnab ? 1817	...	...	Packet Agent.
Mr. Bourchier..	...	...	"
John S. Coxon ? 1858	...	...	Deputy P.M.G., afterwards P.M.G.
T. W. Coffin ...	27.12.67	...	Postmaster-General.
Roger Duke ...	1.1.85	...	"
Sir F. V. Ing- lott, K.C.M.G.	1.1.86	...	"
Fred Mamo ...	...	...	"
Salv. Camilleri ..	...	...	"
Hon. Tom. Vella ...	...	...	"

REVENUE DERIVED FROM THE SALE OF ENGLISH STAMPS AT MALTA.

		£	s.	d.
1870	...	5017	0	0
1871	...	4951	0	0
1872	...	5740	0	0
1873	...	5727	0	0
1874	...	5589	0	0
1875	...	5287	0	0
1876	...	4355	0	0
1877	...	4928	0	0
1878	...	5848	0	0
1879	...	5817	0	0
1880	...	6133	0	0
1881	...	8085	0	0
1882	...	8632	0	0
1883	...	7145	0	0
1884	...	6621	0	0

REVENUE DERIVED FROM THE SALE OF MALTA POSTAGE STAMPS.

(The year is reckoned from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31.)

	£	s.	d.
1861	...	79	15 0
1862	...	61	6 7
1863	...	92	13 0
1864	...	75	2 0
1865	...	67	9 0
1866	...	69	10 0
1867	...	63	11 3
1868	...	61	8 9
1869	...	71	3 0
1882†	...	145	7 6
1884	...	147	4 6
1887	...	7677	9 0
1895	...	10,027	18 11½
1898	...	14,597	7 7
1900	...	11,753	12 0½
1902	...	13,736	0 7½
1903	...	16,739	18 4
1904	...	16,062	15 4½

* This is the amount realized by the Valletta Post Office; the sales effected by the village police stations, where the stamps were sold, are included in their respective accounts; there was only about £3 worth of stamps left on 31st December, 1861.

† Accounts of omitted years not obtainable.

PREPARED STAMP MOUNTS

For affixing Stamps in Collections neatly and expeditiously. Far superior to the old plan of gumming the Stamps, and inserting them so that it is only with great difficulty they can be withdrawn. These Mounts are made of a thin strong white paper, and are ready gummed. By their use, Stamps can be removed at any time without injuring them, or in any way disfiguring the Collection. They are invaluable to those who collect watermarks. They should be used on the hinge system; thus, Moisten the Stamp, attaching the back of it to one-third of the mount, the other two-thirds being fastened to the Album. The Stamp will then be facing the page; but do not turn it over until perfectly dry. A Collection with the Stamps mounted in this manner is far more valuable, if at any time a sale is desired. Three sizes are kept in stock: No. 2, medium size, suitable for ordinary-sized adhesives; No. 1, smaller size; No. 3, large size—for such Stamps as old Portuguese, or for cut Envelopes.

Prices: No. 1, 2, or 3 size, 3d. per 100; 1s. 6d. per 1000, post-free; 5000, 6s. 6d.; 10,000, 12s.

The Prepared Paper can be supplied in Large Sheets, ready Gummed, at 3d. per Sheet, post-free.

A VERY HANDSOME PRESENT

Packet No. 69, 2000 varieties. A grand packet, every stamp being different and genuine, and thus forming a choice collection in itself.

£3, post-free and registered.

Stanley Gibbons Ltd.,
39 Strand, London, W.C.

The Gambia Case

WE have just received two important documents, which we reproduce below, showing that certain proceedings which took place in this Colony a few years ago have not been entirely forgotten. The inquiry is somewhat belated, still we hope that it may be of some service, and we await further developments with much interest.



GOVERNMENT GAZETTE
EXTRAORDINARY
COLONY OF THE GAMBIA

XXVI. Friday, May 7th, 1909. No. 20

88.

The following Commission is hereby published for general information.

By His Excellency's Command,
F. BISSET ARCHER,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Bathurst, Gambia,
7th May, 1909.

A COMMISSION

to inquire into the circumstances under which certain postage stamps were issued and the manner in which they were disposed of.

WHEREAS it is provided by Section II of the Commission for Inquiry Ordinance, 1903, that it shall be lawful for the Governor, whenever he deem advisable, to issue a Commission appointing one or more Commissioners and authorizing such Commissioners, or any quorum of them therein mentioned, to inquire into the conduct of any officer in the public service of the Colony, the conduct of any Head-chief or Headman, the conduct or management of any department of the public service or of any public or local institution, or any matter whatsoever arising in the Colony or Protectorate in which an inquiry would, in the opinion of the Governor, be for the public welfare :—

AND WHEREAS it is expedient and for the public welfare that an inquiry should be held into the circumstances under which certain postage stamps, viz.:—(1) Stamps of the denomination of three shillings and surcharged "One Penny" and (2) Stamps of the denomination of two shillings and sixpence and surcharged "half penny" authorized to be placed in circulation on or about the tenth day of April 1906 and withdrawn from circulation on or about the twenty-fifth day of April 1906 were issued and the manner in which they were disposed of:

NOW, THEREFORE, I SIR GEORGE CHARDIN DENTON, Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of the Gambia, do hereby by this Commission issued under my hand and the Public Seal of the Colony authorize and appoint the following persons, that is to say :

His Honour the Chief Magistrate,
The Honourable SAMUEL HORTON JONES,
Member of the Legislative Council,
and the Honourable ERNEST BAILY, Member
of the Legislative Council,

hereinafter to be referred to distributively as "My Commissioners" or collectively as "the Commission" to inquire into the circumstances under which certain postage stamps, viz.:—(1) Stamps of the denomination of three shillings and surcharged "One Penny" and (2) Stamps of the denomination of two shillings and sixpence and surcharged "half penny" authorized to be placed in circulation on or about the tenth day of April 1906 and withdrawn from circulation on or about the twenty-fifth day of April 1906 were issued and the manner in which they were disposed of with all such powers for the preservation of order, the conduct and management of proceedings before them, the appointment of hours and times and places of their sittings, the adjournment of the inquiry from time to time, the summoning and examination of witnesses, calling for the production of books, plans and documents, and all such authorities and powers whatsoever as are in the above-mentioned Ordinance specified ; and for the better conduct and management of the inquiry I hereby direct and declare as follows :—

1. The said Chief Magistrate shall be Chairman of the Commission ;

2. The inquiry shall be held in the Court House at Bathurst or at such other place as my Commissioners may from time to time determine;

3. On the completion of the inquiry the Commission shall render a report in writing setting forth the conclusions at which they have arrived in reference to the matters the subject of the inquiry, together with any observations relative thereto. In case My Commissioners are unable to agree in their conclusions the Chairman shall render a report in writing, and any Commissioner dissenting therefrom shall adjoin a statement in writing indicating the points upon which he dissents, and his own conclusions thereon;

4. The evidence of all witnesses examined shall be taken on oath or affirmation to be administered or made in due form of law, and shall be taken down in writing and read over to the witnesses and duly signed or otherwise authenticated by them before My Commissioners. The original notes of all evidence so taken shall be forwarded to me along with the report of the Commission;

5. All other matters and proceedings whatsoever shall be done and regulated as in the above-mentioned Ordinance specified.

AND I appoint EDWARD HARTLEY KIRKPATRICK Esquire, Lieutenant in the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry, A.D.C., to be Secretary to attend the sittings of the Commission, to record their proceedings, to keep their papers, summon and minute the testimony of witnesses, and generally to perform such duties connected with the inquiry as My Commissioners shall prescribe.

Given under my hand and Public Seal of the Colony at Government House, Bathurst, this Seventh day of May, One thousand nine hundred and nine,

GEORGE C. DENTON,
Governor.

GOD SAVE THE KING!

The following Notice was published by the Commissioners, in the form of a broadsheet:—



No. 27

1909.

PUBLIC NOTICE.

To all whom it may concern.

WHEREAS His Excellency the Governor pursuant to the powers granted to and vested in him by An Ordinance No. 6 of 1903 intituled the "Commission of Inquiry Ordinance 1903" has been pleased to appoint the following persons, that is to say, His Honour the Chief Magistrate, the Honourable Samuel Horton Jones, Member of the Legislative Council, the Honourable Ernest Baily, Member of the Legislative Council, to be His

Excellency's Commissioners to enquire into the circumstances under which certain Postage Stamps, viz.:—(1) Stamps of the denomination of three shillings and surcharged "one penny" and (2) Stamps of the denomination of two shillings and sixpence and surcharged "half penny" authorised to be placed in circulation on or about the tenth day of April 1906 and withdrawn from circulation on or about the twenty-fifth day of April 1906 were issued and the manner in which they were disposed of.

THIS IS TO GIVE NOTICE that the said Commissioners will sit at the Court House of Bathurst on Tuesday the 18th instant at 8.30 o'clock in the forenoon to hear and receive evidence touching the subject matter of the said enquiry. AND FURTHER THIS IS TO GIVE NOTICE that all persons having knowledge of or concerning the issue or the disposal of the Postage Stamps hereinbefore described or of any of them and all persons desirous of giving or tendering to the said Commissioners any evidence or information being in respect of the said issue or disposal of the said stamps or being relevant to the subject matter of the said enquiry shall attend at the said Court House of Bathurst on Tuesday the 18th instant at 8.30 a.m. or at such place and on such day and at such time as the said Commissioners shall direct to communicate such knowledge or to give or tender such evidence or information and all such persons shall signify at or before 4 o'clock in the afternoon of the 17th instant their intention so to do to one of the said Commissioners or to me the undersigned.

E. H. KIRKPATRICK, *Lieut.,
Secretary to the said Commissioners.*

Government House,
Bathurst, Gambia,
11th May, 1909.

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39 Strand, London, W.C.

Reviews

By E. B. EVANS

Hawaii

ONE of the most sumptuous philatelic works that I have met with for a long time is the book on *Hawaiian Numerals*, for which I am indebted to its author, Mr. Henry J. Crocker, of San Francisco. Mr. Crocker's wonderful collection of the stamps of the Hawaiian Islands will not be forgotten by collectors in this country who had the privilege of seeing it three years ago, when it won the Gold Cup in Section 2 of the Championship Class, for Countries other than Great Britain and Colonies; and the invaluable results of his researches into the problems arising out of the various settings and printings of the type-set stamps are now exhibited to collectors in all parts of the world in the fullest and most generous manner possible.

Commencing with the so-called "Missionary" stamps of 1852, we have two plates of illustrations of these great rarities, each value of which exists in two varieties of type. In the absence of unsevered pairs, philatelists of earlier days had termed these "Variety 1" and "Variety 2" respectively, without any reference to their relative positions; the Tapling Collection in the British Museum contains a complete series of these stamps, no less than a dozen copies, showing both varieties of the 2 c., the 5 c., and the two issues of the 13 c., arranged as stated above. Mr. Crocker is fortunate enough to possess a strip of three of the earlier 13 c. (a pair and a second impression of Type 1 at the right of it), which proves that the old "Variety 1" is the right-hand stamp of the pair and the old "Variety 2" the left-hand stamp. Thus the latter becomes Type 1 and the former Type 2, and in future, no doubt, they will always be thus referred to.

Following these plates is one showing used copies of certain types of the numeral issues, with large margins proving their positions, and we then have nineteen plates of complete settings, showing the arrangement of all the known types of these stamps, and we may presume all the settings that ever were made. Full descriptions of these are given, pointing out their principal peculiarities, with illustrations in the letter-press of certain varieties due to loosening and slipping of the type in the course of printing, which do not occur in all impressions. Among these I note what seems to be one little slip, occasioned perhaps by the insertion of a wrong illustration; that given as Type 9 of Plate XII. in the lower part of

page 61 appears to me to be plainly Type 7 of Plate XI, with the large figure "2" broken at the junction of the head with the tail, and the "1" of "INTER" raised, as described on page 60.

It seems ungrateful to find fault with any part of the production of so beautiful a book, but I cannot help thinking that it was a mistake to attempt the reproduction of the pale blue stamps in their original colour. The result is unfortunate; some of the illustrations thus printed are greatly wanting in clearness, and I fear that it would be impossible in these cases to identify the varieties of type by their means; black and white is the only satisfactory medium in a case like this, where great clearness of detail is an absolute necessity. But even admitting that this is a defect or an error of judgment, the book is most beautifully got up and should be a joy to all lovers of philately and philatelic literature.

Turning now from the principal subject of the work, I must acknowledge that the portion which is most interesting to me personally is what is described on the title-page as "An Article, with Evidence that the so-called Reprints or Reissues of the 5 c. and 13 c. 1853 Type were regularly ordered by Postmaster-General David Kalakaua, afterward King of Hawaii."

Readers of the *Monthly Journal* may remember that in the numbers for December, 1900, and January, 1901, there appeared an article, by "H. L.", on *Reprints of the Stamps of Hawaii*, in which it was claimed that certain impressions of the 5 c. and 13 c. of 1853 were *reprints*, in the usual acceptation of that term. It is not necessary to give any description of the impressions in question; they are recognized by all authorities as the last that were printed from the original plates, and they can be identified by certain well-known characteristics. The question is, When and under what circumstances were they printed? The writer of the article referred to believed that they were printed in 1867 or 1868, and were sent to the Islands together with the plates at that period, having been ordered for the purpose of supplying collectors, dealers, and foreign Post Offices which had asked for specimens of Hawaiian stamps. Mr. Crocker believes that they were printed and sent out in 1865, having been ordered in ordinary course at the beginning of that year or in the autumn of 1864, and this opinion, which was supported by Mr. Luff and Mr. Gardner, was expressed in letters from those three philatelists which

were published in the *M. J.* for March, 1901.

Some question was then raised as to the identity of the writer of the article that had appeared a few months previously, and I think that there is no harm now in stating that the letters "H. L." were the initials, reversed, of Monsieur L. Hanciau, who up to that time had, I think, written nothing under his own name and was averse from so doing, but who, as is now well known, had been for thirty-eight years the editor of *Le Timbre-Poste* and the "philatelist" of the firm of Moens, of Brussels. It was he himself therefore who had seen and described the stamps in question when they first arrived in Europe in 1869, and who, judging from their appearance and the circumstances under which they came over that they were quite recent impressions, regarded them from the first as reprints and catalogued them as such. Seeing therefore that what there is to be said about them is largely a matter of opinion, it seems fair to point out that the opinion against them is that of a man who had the best possible opportunity of forming one.

In his fresh statement of the case, Mr. Crocker says:—

"The editor of the *Monthly Journal* writes in his article published March 30th, 1901, "the following, which shows, by the way, that the compiler of the 'Notes,' H. L., was not infallible." I do not claim infallibility for him, but if Mr. Crocker will look again at the passage which he quotes, he will see that the "Notes" referred to were those in *Filatelic Facts and Fallacies*, in which I had pointed out a manifest mistake, and with which "H. L." had nothing to do.

I confess that my opinion is still that the case made out by the article of "H. L." nine years ago, to which I ventured to add some arguments of my own when publishing the letters of Mr. Crocker, Mr. Gardner, and Mr. Luff,* is such a strong one that it requires some actual proof of the existence of the stamps in question at an earlier date to upset it.

The whole argument of Mr. Crocker appears to me to depend upon a single link, and that link by his own confession is missing. It is a supposed order for stamps, sent to Boston (where the old plates were) in the latter part of 1864. In his letter published in March, 1901, he says first of all: "The two above-mentioned stamps were, in fact, the invoice ordered by the Hawaiian Government on November 30th, 1864, and came on medium white creamy wove paper. They were the 'fresh supply' expected by Wm. G. Irwin in his letter to J. B. Moens of

February 24th, 1865." Later in the same letter he says: "they were the invoice that was ordered by the Hawaiian Government late in 1864 or early in 1865, and were the supply that Wm. G. Irwin was expecting." Now he puts the date further back, and says: "unable to give the exact date of this order, I will amend my statement of eight years ago by changing the date November 30, 1864, to read on or before November 30, 1864, and possibly soon after September 19, 1864, the 5 c. stamp and the 13 c. stamp, the subjects of this controversy, were ordered for the post office by H. M. Whitney, at the request of Postmaster-General Kalakaua."

But there is no record whatever of any such order ever having been given. The sole foundation for the theory is the fact that Mr. Irwin, who seems to have been a clerk in the post office at Honolulu, says in a postscript to his letter of February 24, 1865:—

"The Post Office has no 5 c. stamps on hand. While awaiting a fresh supply from the United States we issue in the meantime the provisional 5 cents."

He does not actually state that any 5 c. stamps had been ordered, but the expression he uses may be held to imply that he supposed that such was the case; on the other hand, he states distinctly in the body of his letter, with regard to the 13 c. stamps, that: "as they long since became obsolete, no more impressions will be taken from the plate, which is somewhere in the United States." If therefore we are to accept his letter as proof that 5 c. stamps had been ordered (and there is no other evidence at all of any such thing), we must also accept it as proof that 13 c. stamps had *not* been ordered. And we might also take it as implying that stamps were no longer being obtained from the vague "somewhere in the United States," where the plate of the 13 c. was said to be. We know as a fact that 2 c. stamps of very superior manufacture had already been obtained from the National Bank Note Co., of New York, at the instance it appears of Mr. Irwin himself; it is not unnatural to suppose that the 5 c. stamps he was looking forward to were those of similar design to the 2 c., obtained from the same Company.

Again, there is no record of the receipt of the 5 c. and 13 c. stamps. Mr. Crocker says: "Both Mr. Giffard and Mr. Kenyon mention the receipt of stamps by the Honolulu Postoffice about August 31, 1865, and their information seems to be taken from some official sources. If there was a delivery at that time it could only be the 5 c. and 13 c. ordered by Kalakaua, which would be due to arrive about that time."

Surely, if the stamps had been ordered in September, 1864, to be printed from plates

* I think it fair to add that the facts brought forward by "H. L." and myself were sufficient to convert Mr. Luff to our side of the controversy.

already in existence, they should have arrived much sooner than the end of the following August; but if an order for a new 5 c. stamp had been sent to the National Bank Note Co., in the latter part of 1864, it would be quite natural that the stamps should not be ready until several months after. Besides which, Mr. Giffard, who seems to have obtained official information as to all the requisitions for stamps from January 23, 1864, onwards, tells us that the stamps received on August 31, 1865, were the 2 c. with portrait of Kamehameha IV, and the 5 c. with portrait of Kamehameha V, both of which had been ordered on April 26th, 1865.

Mr. Crocker's contention is that, on the last-mentioned date, Mr. Brickwood, the then Postmaster-General, "proceeded to order some 2 c. engraved, and placed an order for the 5 c. at the same time. This was the new stamp, with a portrait of Kamehameha V, *which absolutely proves that Kalakaua did not order the new engraved stamp.*" Mr. Giffard also says that this was the first "requisition" for the new 5 c. stamp, but he adds that both the stamps ordered arrived together on August 31st, following, which, I might almost claim, *absolutely proves that the plate of the 5 c. had been ordered previously and approved of.* The same thing had taken place a year or more previously, in the case of the engraved 2 c., correspondence on the subject of the new plate commencing on November 4, 1863, and the first requisition for the stamps being dated January 23, 1864.

Mr. Crocker suggests that the stamps ordered in April, 1865, did not reach the Islands till May or June, 1866, in direct contradiction to Mr. Giffard's statistics; and if such were the case, we must suppose that the 5 c. stamp now in dispute was in use from the 1st September, 1865, to May, 1866, a period of at least eight months, and yet not a single copy reached dealers in Europe or elsewhere, and not a single copy used during that period has ever been found.

There is no *absolute proof* one way or the other, but it seems to me that all the *evidence* is strongly against the theory that these doubtful stamps were printed earlier than 1867. If Mr. Giffard is correct in giving 1867 as the year in which the plates were sent to Honolulu, the stamps must have been printed as early as that year. He says "about 1867," which might equally well mean "1868"; there was no record of the date of the receipt of either the stamps or the plates, and no record of any requisition for these stamps, which might well be the case if they were not ordered by the Post Office or for regular postal use.

The problem is an interesting one, it has not been solved yet with absolute certainty,

and I am glad that Mr. Crocker has brought it forward again and given me an opportunity for a little friendly argument. And all philatelists must be grateful to him for the production of a very valuable book.

* * *

The Melville Stamp Books

Two more of these charming little books have reached me during the past month, and illustrate once more the versatility of their author, who ranges from Part I to Part II of the Catalogue and back again with the utmost impartiality. No. 5 treats of the stamps of *Nevis*, an interesting subject which has been closely studied in the past. The arrangement of the varieties of the early stamps has never given much trouble to collectors, as sheets were obtainable down to comparatively recent times, and containing only twelve stamps were collected entire by many philatelists. Some retouching, however, was done to certain varieties of the One Penny, when lithography was adopted as the means of production, in place of printing direct from the plate, and thus fresh varieties of type may be said to have been produced, which do not exist in the engraved issues. Mr. Melville points out that the designs of the stamps were evidently copied from those of the same values of Great Britain, the Nevis device being inserted in the frame in place of the Queen's Head. He gives a brief description of the principal distinguishing points of each of the twelve varieties of the four values, which, with the full-sized illustrations of complete sheets, will enable collectors to identify the positions of their single copies and reconstruct sheets if they desire to do so.

No. 6 takes us to *Holland*, where comparative absence of varieties of type is more than compensated for by the innumerable varieties of perforation in some of the intermediate issues. Varieties of type are not entirely wanting, but with the exception of the two types of the numerals in the issue of 1867, they appear to be due to accidental defects or retouching. In the case of the projection, or "horn" on the forehead in one plate of the 10 c. of the first issue, I would suggest that this was produced by an injury, not to the die of that value, but to the impression on the roller. If it had necessitated the production of a new 10 c. die from the original die without indication of value, we might expect to find a fresh variety of the figures "10" in the third plate; besides which a *white* flaw in the stamps implies a dent in the roller, not in the die—the latter would produce a coloured flaw. Retouching appears to have been employed to erase this flaw from each im-

pression on the plate, and the same process was applied to the first plate of the 5 c. as it became worn.

The perforation difficulties are avoided, by giving a numbered list of the various single and compound perforations, at the commencement of the reference list, and

simply stating at the head of each issue which varieties are found in it. This is quite sufficient in a work of this nature; indeed, I am inclined to say that it is sufficient in any unpriced list, it being understood that some of the values do not exist with all the varieties of perforation.

Foreign Notes

By FRANK PHILLIPS

The Rhodesian Overprint

IN the stamps of British South Africa, which have lately been overprinted "RHODESIA," there are a number of varieties in the setting of the surcharge, most of which are, however, of such minor importance that it is useless to refer to them.

One variety which occurs with fair regularity consists of the surcharge "RHODESIA" without stop. Up to the present the variety has been found only on the 4d., 1s., 2s. 6d., 5s., and 10s., and I have a copy of the 1d. before me, which also appears to me without stop, but on closer examination the stop can be seen practically joined to the serif of the letter "A"; as a matter of fact, the stop is never very far from this serif, and in the 1d. and 1s. it can also be nearly distinguished thus. In the 4d., 2s. 6d., and 5s., the stop is certainly absent in the tenth (i.e. the last) stamp of each of the six horizontal rows composing a pane or a sheet.

A second variety which is of some interest occurs in the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. only. In the normal overprint there is a straight line, or rather serif, on the top of the letter "A," and in the variety the right-hand half of this serif is missing. This variety is also constant, occurring in a vertical strip of six stamps on each pane.

There are numerous other varieties, but the "no stop" would seem to prove one important point. In the 2s. 6d. surcharged $\frac{1}{2}$ d., the overprint "RHODESIA" is always followed by a stop, and as the 2s. 6d. also exists overprinted "RHODESIA" without stop, it follows that the surcharging was done at one operation, i.e. surcharge and "RHODESIA" together. It is an interesting point, as at first the suggestion was that all the remaining 2s. 6d. stamps had been overprinted "RHODESIA," and that *some of these* were surcharged " $\frac{1}{2}$ d." in addition.

Maldives Islands

THE following extract from *The Ceylon Morning Leader* of May 4 reaches me owing to the kindness of Mr. J. J. L. Fernando:—

"The new Maldivian postage stamps arrived in Colombo last week from England by the B.I.s.s. *Shivala*, and were despatched to the Maldivian Government on Thursday last in the schooner *Patu Salan*. Four varieties, viz. the 2 c., 3 c., 5 c., and 10 cents, were received, and four others have still to come, the 15, 25, 50 cents, and R 1. Delay in their arrival was due to the corrections made and sent from Ceylon in the Arabic lettering."

New Issues and Discoveries

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Costa Rica.—Mr. James Mallings has shown us copies of the 2 c., 4 c., and 10 c., perforated $11\frac{1}{2} \times 14$, similar to the 5 c. listed in our issue of May 15; he also states that he has seen the 1 c. similarly perforated.



43



44



45



47

1900. Types 43 to 45 and 47. Centres in first colour.
Variety. Perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 14$.

67a	1 c., indigo and chestnut-brown.
68	2 c., black and yellow-green.
69	4 c., indigo and carmine-red on toned.
71	10 c., black and blue.

Eritrea.—We learn from *Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste* (1.6.09) that the 10 centesimi of 1906 has been overprinted in black as usual.



Colonia Eritrea

151

38

Type 38 (of Italy) overprinted with Type 151, in black.

35 10 c., rose (No. 126).

Holland.—We have received a 4 on 6½ cent provisional Postage Due stamp, which was issued during the Philatelic Exhibition which has just been held at Amsterdam.

There are two varieties to be noted by the specialist, and as they occur on the stamp itself, and not in the surcharge, they are equally applicable to No. 355a in the Catalogue. In one the lower portion of the figure "6" is broken away (just that portion consisting of a fine line), and in the other the "T" of "CENT" is considerably raised; both varieties occur once only in the sheet.

We are informed that this provisional will shortly be replaced by a proper stamp. For description of Variety I (34 loops) see Catalogue.

4
54a

52

JUNE 3, 1909. Type 52 (Var. I only) surcharged with Type 54a, in red.

357a 4 on 6½ c., ultramarine and black.

Jamaica.—We have received a new shade of the 6d. Queen on multiple unsurfaced paper. We find that the old shade is described under No. 59 in the Catalogue as *dull orange*; but on comparing the two shades we think that the old shade should be called *dull orange-yellow*, and the new one *dull orange*.



5

1906-9. Type 5. Wmk. Multiple Crown CA, Type w. 8. Perf. 14.

[59] 6d., dull orange-yellow (1906), O. 1
59a 6d., dull orange (1909), O.

Maldivian Islands.—Mr. W. H. Peckitt has shown us the four new stamps to which we referred in our issue of October 31, 1908. They

are the usual small rectangular size, and are surface-printed on paper showing a watermark of multiple rosettes with the latter set vertically (in the opposite direction to that shown in the illustration below). Judging from the paper used the stamps were engraved and printed by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., Ltd.

The design of all four stamps is similar, the central feature being a view of a rather ugly, squat, cylindrical tower, which is supposed to represent a minaret opposite the Mahomedan mosque at Male, the capital of the Maldives.



202

APRIL (?) 1909. Type 202. Wmk. Multiple Rosettes,

Type 203. Perf. 14.

8 2 c., orange-brown.

9 3 c., deep myrtle.

10 5 c., pale purple.

11 10 c., carmine.



203

Nicaragua.—It is stated in *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* (29.5.09), on the authority of Mr. Hermann Focke, that the old plates of the American Bank Note Company are being used again. At any rate the 5 c. has come in a new shade, quite different from No. 306 in the Catalogue, and the 10 c. in a new colour.



37

1909. Type 37. New shade and new colour. Perf. 12. 5 c., Prussian blue.
10 c., claret.

South Australia.—The Rev. T. P. Davis has shown us the following variety:—

0.

S.

53



7



13

1900. Type 7. Wmk. Crown SA, close, Type 13, overprinted with Type 53, in black. Perf. 13. Variety. (i.) "O. S." inverted.
658a 2d., bright violet.

GIBBONS STAMP

WEEKLY



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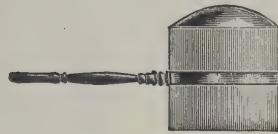
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No. 1535

(HALF-SIZE.)

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Stamp Collecting as a Pastime.

By the late E. J. NANKIVELL.

A GOOD readable handbook written by the one-time Editor of *G.S.W.*, and late Stamp Editor of *The Captain*. The book affords a peep behind the scenes, and explains how it is that, after more than half a century of existence, stamp collecting has never been more popular than it is to-day.

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LIBERIA

1909.

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Philatelic Societies

Herts Philatelic Society

President : Franz Reichenheim, Esq.

Hon. Secretary : H. A. Slade, Esq., Ninefields, St. Albans.

Meetings : 4 Southampton Row, W.C., Third Tuesdays.

Annual Subscription, 5s.

The annual meeting was held at No. 4 Southampton Row on Tuesday, May 18, 1909, at 6 p.m.

Present : Messrs. Franz Reichenheim, H. L. Hayman, T. H. Harvey, W. G. Cool, W. A. Boyes, P. Ashley, L. E. Bradbury, C. R. Sutherland, W. T. Standen, A. H. L. Giles, J. C. Sidebotham, A. G. Wane, E. W. Arnold, F. Read, D. H. Jackson, R. H. Newton, Baron Anthony de Worms, W. H. Eastwood, E. Bounds, M. Weinberg, J. A. Leon, and H. A. Slade.

Before the election of officers, Mr. Sidebotham presided.

The minutes of the annual meeting held on May 19, 1908, were read and signed as correct.

The officers for the session 1909-10 were elected as follows : President, Franz Reichenheim ; Vice-President, Harry L. Hayman ; Hon. Vice-Presidents, M. P. Castle, J.P., and Herbert R. Oldfield ; Committee, W. Archibald Boyes, Louis E. Bradbury, W. G. Cool, R. Frentzel, A. H. L. Giles, R.N., T. Hargrave Harvey, C. R. Sutherland, and W. T. Standen ; Hon. Librarian, J. C. Sidebotham, 28 Great Ormond Street, London, W.C. ; Hon. Lecturer, Percy Ashley, M.A. ; Hon. Auditors, F. Read and A. G. Wane ; Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, H. A. Slade.

It was carried that the sum of £20 be granted from the funds of the Society towards the cost of printing the *Monthly Report*, and that the sincere thanks of the Society be recorded to the President for the great ability he had shown in carrying out the arduous duties of editor. The President in returning thanks agreed to continue his duties next season provided the paper was established on a proper paying basis.

A Committee was appointed to make the necessary arrangements for the Second Philatelic Congress of Great Britain to be held in London in 1910, under the auspices of the Herts Philatelic Society. The Committee to consist of the President, the Vice-President, Baron Anthony de Worms, C. R. Sutherland, and the Hon. Secretary.

Stamps for the Society's Collection were presented by the President and the Vice-President. The latter also presented proofs of the New Zealand and Ceylon stamps used on the dinner cards, copies of the menu and invitation cards, etc., and promised a Scrap Book to the Society to contain these and similar objects interesting to the Herts Philatelic Society.

Philatelic literature was presented to the library by Mr. E. F. Lawrence, *The Melville Stamp Book* (Mr. W. H. Peckitt) ; Oestreichischer Philatelisten-Klub, Vindobona ; Internationaler Postwertzeichen-Händler-Verein zu Berlin ; and the Newcastle Philatelic Society.

All these donations were acknowledged with thanks, and the Vice-President was specially thanked for the part taken by him in promoting the success of the annual dinner.

It was resolved that No. 4 Southampton Row continue as the meeting-place of the Society.

The meeting terminated at 7.45 p.m.

International Philatelic Union

Hon. President : Judge Philbrick, K.C.

Secretary : T. H. Hinton, 28 Cromford Road, East Putney, London, S.W.

Meetings : Essex Hall, Essex Street, London, W.C.

Annual Subscription : 5s. ; Entrance Fee, 2s. 6d.

The annual general meeting and election of officers and Committee for 1909-10 was held at Essex Hall, W.C., on Thursday, May 13. Present : J. C. Sidebotham (in the chair), P. L. Pemberton, F. F. Lamb, A. B. Kay, A. Levy, G. E. Strong, and the Hon. Secretary. The Annual Report and Balance Sheet was read and adopted subject to audit. The reports of the Hon. Exchange Superintendent and Librarian having been read and approved, it was moved by Mr. Sidebotham, seconded by Mr. Levy, and carried unanimously, that the best thanks of the Union be accorded to the officers for their services during the past year. Mr. J. C. Sidebotham was unanimously re-elected President, and the following list of officers and Committee were then elected for the ensuing year : Hon. President, His Honour Judge Philbrick, K.C. ; Hon. Vice-Presidents, W. Dornig Beckton, H. L. Hayman, H. R. Oldfield, and Vernon Roberts ; Vice-Presidents, W. Schwabacher, L. W. Fulcher, and W. Schwaite ; Committee, P. P. Brown,

J. E. Joslin, A. B. Kay, Major Laffan, R.E., F. F. Lamb, W. E. Lincoln, P. L. Pemberton, and E. W. Wetherell ; Hon. Secretary, J. W. Hinton ; Hon. Exchange Supt., Dr. Marx, M.A. ; Hon. Counterfeit Detector, W. Hadlow ; Hon. Librarian, W. L. King ; Hon. Solicitors, Messrs. Oldfield. The meeting concluded with a display of Belgium by the President, and a selection from his fine collection of Forgeries by Mr. A. B. Kay.

It is proposed to open next season with a smoking concert in October, and to continue monthly meetings at Essex Hall from November to May, for which contributions of displays or papers are invited from members or friends, from whom the Hon. Secretary will be pleased to hear; also to send particulars of membership on application.

Junior Philatelic Society Brighton Branch

President : F. J. Melville.

Chairman : W. Mead.

Hon. Sec. : J. Ireland, 103 Western Road, Hove.

Meeting-place : Royal Hotel, Queen's Road.

Meetings : Second and fourth Thursdays, 7 till 10 p.m.

The third annual business meeting was held on May 27, at the Royal Hotel. There was a very good attendance. Mr. Mead took the chair at 8 o'clock and the minutes of the previous annual meeting were read and confirmed. The Secretary's Annual Report was found to be very satisfactory, sixteen new members having been elected during the season, and altogether the progress made may be considered very creditable. The cash account showed a balance credit of £1 4s. 1d.

The election of officers resulted as follows : Chairman, Mr. W. Mead ; Hon. Secretary, Mr. J. Ireland ; Exchange Superintendent, Mr. Tom J. Blake ; Curator of Forgery Collection, Mr. Bertie Morley. Magazine Distributor, Mr. Tom J. Blake. Committee : Messrs. Herbert Clark, J. Corner Spokes, W. Cyril Owen, and Gilbert H. Type.

The medal kindly offered by the Editor of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, was unanimously awarded to Mr. Herbert Clark for his paper on the "Pony Express of America." It was unfortunate that the medal had not come to hand in time to be formally presented. Mr. Clark kindly offered to pay the subscription to the Philatelic Literature Society, as the balance in hand did not admit of its being paid out of the funds. Mr. Clark was accorded a very hearty vote of thanks for his generosity.

The Secretary announced that good progress had been made with the programme for next season, which opens on October 14.

At the conclusion of the meeting an excellent musical programme was given, which it is hoped may be repeated on a future occasion.

Manchester Junior Philatelic Society

Hon. Sec. : Jno. S. Higgins, Jun., 7 Green Street, Manchester.

The first annual meeting of the Society was held at the Deansgate Hotel on May 6, 1909. The President, Mr. I. J. Bernstein, occupied the chair, and there were thirty-five members present.

The Secretary, in his Annual Report, said that the total membership now numbered 122. During the past session 15 meetings have been held ; average attendance, 35.

The accounts, showing a credit balance of £26 17s. 5d., were submitted and adopted. The Report of the Exhibition Committee, showing a profit of £12 11s. 8d., was adopted. The Reports of the Librarian and Packet Superintendent were also submitted and adopted.

The silver and bronze medals offered by the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, were awarded to Mr. J. J. Darlow for his paper on "Stamps of St. Lucia," and to Mr. J. S. Higgins, jun., for his paper on "The Stamps of the Niger Coast."

It was decided that the annual picnic should take place on June 26, and if suitable arrangements could be made, that Delamere Forest should be again visited.

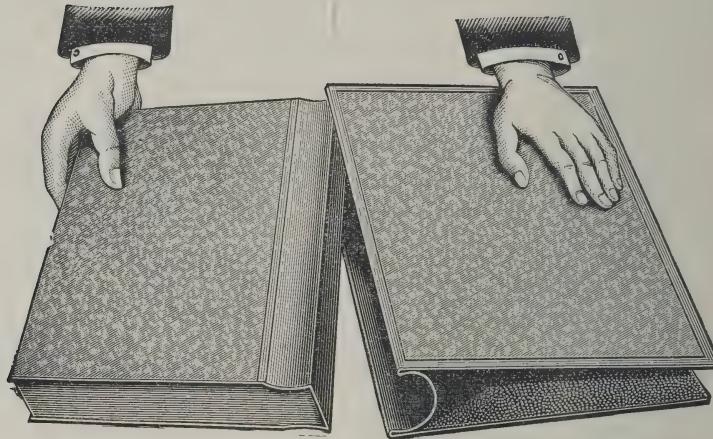
Officers elected for the coming session :-

President, Mr. I. J. Bernstein ; Vice-Presidents, Mr. W. W. Munn and Mr. J. J. Darlow ; Packet Superintendent, Mr. C. S. Gleave ; Auditor, Mr. P. S. Barton ; Librarian, Mr. J. Taylor ; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. J. S. Higgins, jun. ; Committee, Mr. A. Conboy, Mr. R. Lowenhaupt, and Mr. J. T. Tweedale.

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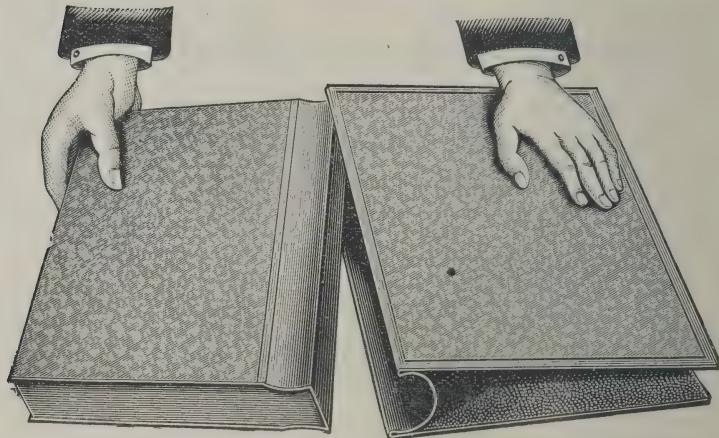
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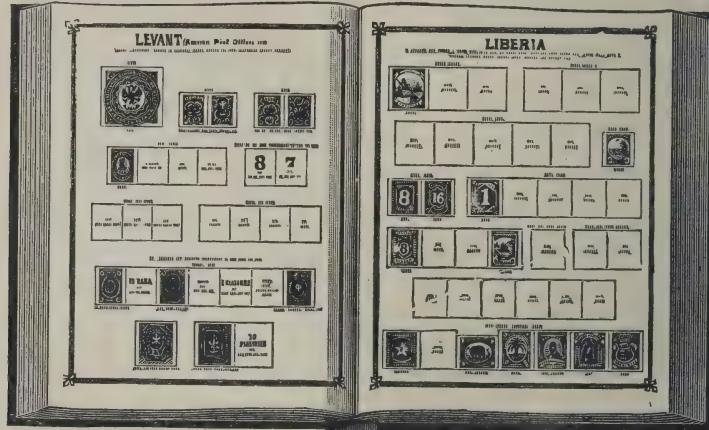
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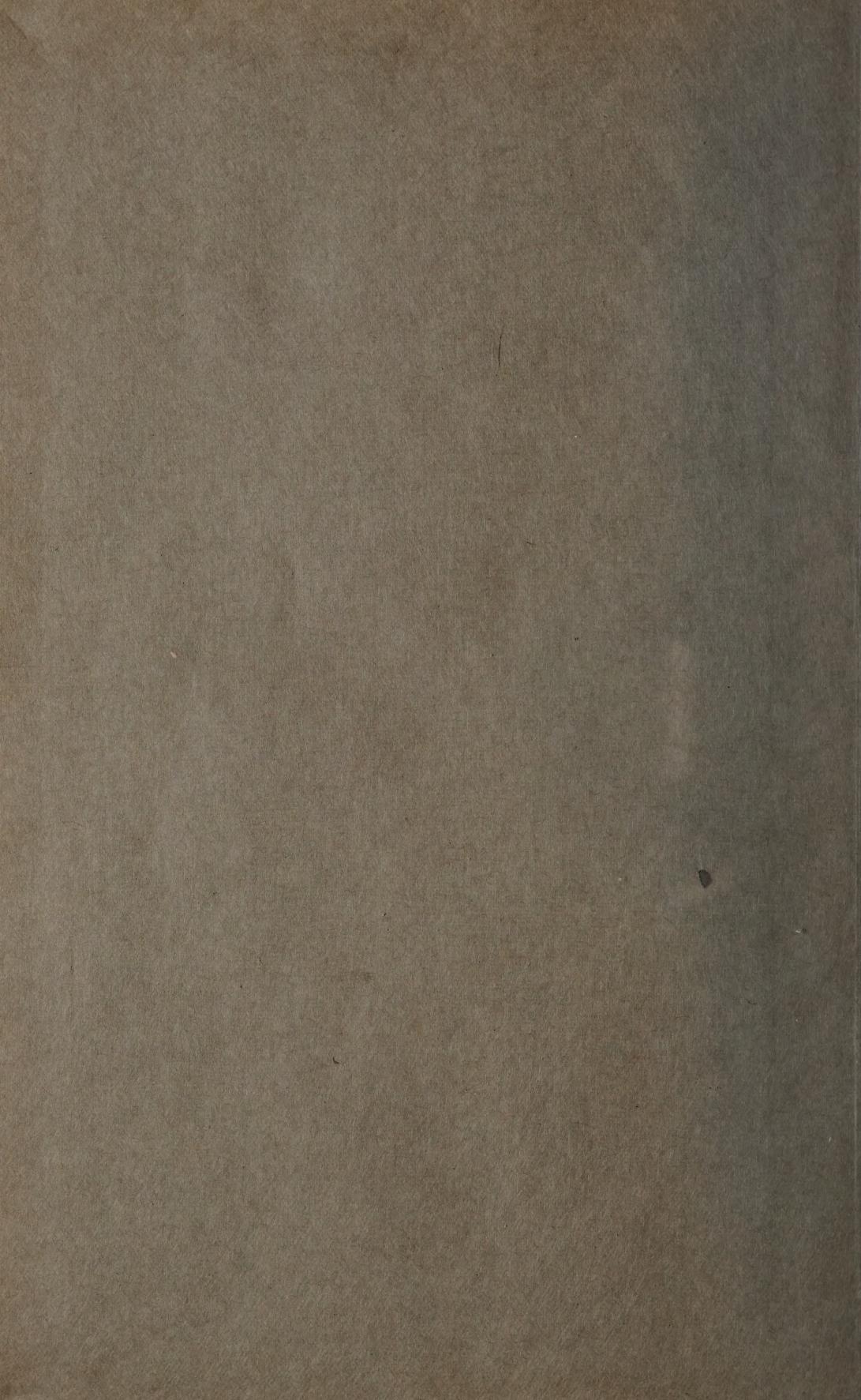
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